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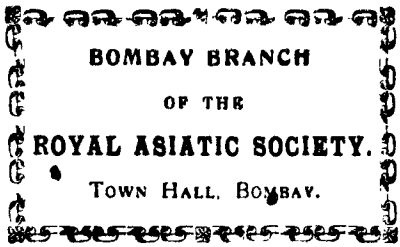

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THE FARINGTON DIARY

CORONATION OF NAPOLEON AND JOSEPHINE
From a picture by J. L. David

THE FARINGTON DIARY

BY

JOSEPH FARINGTON, R.A.

EDITED BY

JAMES GREIG

AUTHOR OF

A "Life of Thomas Gainsborough," and a "Life of Sir Henry Raeburn"

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(JUNE 10, 1811, TO DECEMBER 18, 1814)

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INTRODUCTION

THE seventh and penultimate volume of Farington's Diary contains entries which begin on June 10, 1811, and end on December 18, 1814. Those dating up to December, 1811, appeared in the *Morning Post*, the others, up to the end of the volume, are published for the first time.

The most momentous events of the period covered by this volume are those relating to the Napoleonic and American wars. A brief reference to the American episode may be made. The possibility of such an outbreak is mentioned on July 14, 1811—it actually began in the following year—and the idea was scouted by many people. Lord de Dunstanville said that no American Government would go to war with England. If they did their sources of revenue would be stopped. "We should be able to destroy all their towns upon the coast, and drive them into the interior, and that all they could do would be to take *Canada*, which is of little consequence to us." On October 27, 1812, Farington records that "Canning was disposed to declare war against the Americans and to make them feel what war is. He said the British Ministry had now done it. He would have done it at an earlier period." It was admitted that "the Americans had been illused by the English Government in pressing their seamen and in other respects." This opinion was held by Rear-Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort, who, however, agreed that the people of America were not esteemable. But "they would in time," he declared, "become a great People, and, with South America, form together nations that would in comparison make Europe and the Eastern world little." On the other hand, Benjamin West believed that England and America were destined to act together in the future and maintain the peace of the world.

The trouble in America was of small moment compared with the struggle in Europe. This fact was illustrated by Francis Jeffrey (of the "*Quarterly*, so smart and so tartarly"), who, on being asked by President Maddison what people in England thought of the war with America, replied that "Half the People of England do not know that there is war with America, and those who did have forgotten it."

Buonaparte's star was fast waning by the spring of 1812. On April 24 a Gazette was published announcing that Wellington had captured Badajoz; on August 15, Farington, while in East Anglia, records the people's joy on hearing of the great victory at Salamanca, and on September 6 he states that the editor of the *Norfolk Chronicle* issued a slip bearing the happy news, "Madrid Taken by the Marquess of Wellington."

The burning of Moscow excited much "admiration, accompanied with feelings of sorrow for the sacrifice made by a people for their country."

Buonaparte's situation in Russia "is being now most difficult." His greatest admirers begin "to give Him up as to any expectation of His being able to extricate

himself successfully." His army was surrounded at Smolensk in December, 1812, "escape is nearly impossible." On the 16th and 17th of that month London "was exhilarated with the joyful news of the total discomfiture of the armies of Buonaparte in Russia," and on the 23rd it was reported that he had arrived in Paris and "published a Bulletin acknowledging the destruction of his Army."

Prussia's entry into the war in 1813 was followed by the battle of Lutzen near Leipzig in May, and on July 2 the news of Wellington's complete victory at Vittoria "caused much reciprocal congratulation." Peace was on everyone's lips. "There was for this country no separate peace . . . it was now for the first time the war of the people. . . . It would be," said Lord Liverpool, "the Policy of England to give security not only to her friends but to her enemies."

Buonaparte's speech in 1813 to the Legislative Assembly in accepting the terms of peace, was characterised by a leading journal as "a Tissue of Unmeaning Common Places, signifying nothing, binding its author to no specific terms & holding out no distinct hope either to France or to Europe. . . . It had the spirit of inveterate and disappointed hostility against all Europe & furious hatred against England." And the general cry was "No Peace with Buonaparte." This determination was increased by victory at Leipzig and the news of "The Allies with the Allied Sovereigns at their head, having *entered Paris* on Thursday, March 31st, 1814." The people were gratified, and all "concurred in rejoicing that Peace was not made with Buonaparte." On April 9 his abdication and decision to go to Elba was announced, and Farington exclaimed: "Thus terminated the reign of one of the most malignant & remorseless tyrants that ever existed." On the following day "the Public desire for information from France was this day so great that the Shops of some of the Editors were beset with persons calling for Papers. All the Stamps of *Bell's Messenger* were exhausted, and the scarcity of papers was such that the Newspaper Horns were not heard about the streets as usual upon less interesting occasions."

The Diarist records on April 20 that great crowds moved towards Paddington to meet Louis XVIII, King of France, coming from Hartwell, his residence in Buckinghamshire, where "it was His daily custom (generally speaking) to drink four bottles of *Port Wine*, this being His favourite liquor." When Louis reached Paris "the people and the National Guard received him with acclamation, but Buonaparte's Imperial Guard were invincibly sulky & did not join in any testimony of approbation."

There are interesting impressions of eminent people associated with the war. The Emperor of Russia "had a good humoured cheerful look, but . . . there was something *Cattish* in his face." "The King of Prussia . . . had much the look of a *Highlander*, having high cheek bones, and a weather beaten complexion." Lawrence was to paint the Duke of Wellington's portrait and "He came on Horseback attended by an Old Groom, and (dressed in the plainest manner) wearing a Blue Coat & a round Hat.—Nobody was apprized of His coming, and the few people who were passing had no knowledge of His being the Duke of Wellington. . . . Lawrence gave some characteristic particulars of Lord Wellington. It has been observed that when thoughts of military movements rise in His mind while He is in Society He has a habit of taking His left elbow into His right hand & sitting in that posture;—and that when He is dissatisfied with the management of the Commissariat or other concerns He covers His nose with His hand, and on seeing

this token of His disapprobation those officers who are concerned get out of his way as much as they can."

Here is Farington's description of Madame de Stael: "Madame de Stael, I observed, was of the middle size in height at most. Her face very much of the Swiss form and character.—Her Hair & eyes black, the latter animated. Her mouth wide, & disfigured by two very projecting upper teeth; Her complexion tending to swarthy;—Her person rather broad & apparently strong."

William Owen, R.A., says: "The Fashion of the Parisian women was so to frill & lappet & close themselves up abt. the neck & shoulders that they looked like Friezland Hens; and seeing the English women dressed in a more open manner they affected to decry it as being immodest.—The bold & forward manner of the French women did really on many occasions give just cause to complain of their own indelicacy. . . . At the *Institute* when the National Prizes were given by the Duke d'Angouleme well dressed women who came in late wd. stride over the backs of the Benches & force a leg between any two gentlemen where there appeared to be the least opening."

Before passing from the subject of war reference may be made to the question of prize money. Rear-Admiral Beaufort told Farington "that when a French Frigate happened to be taken, Her value to the Captors was rated at about twelve pounds per ton, exclusive of Her Sails &c. & that a Frigate of 36 guns might at this rate be valued at towards £20,000.—The Captain commanding the victorious Ship has two-thirds of a third of Her total value, & the Admiral under whose orders He sails has one-third of a third."

The Royal Family figure prominently. Lord Melville went to King George one day and the statesman's bowing, and cheerful face, suggested to His Majesty that he had a favour to ask. It was this: The family of Walter Farquhar, the physician, were anxious "that some mark of distinction should be conferred upon him," and Melville added, "that as there were several Baronets to be made soon He hoped His Majesty wd. have no objection to Mr. Farquhar being of the number." "Yes, yes," replied the King, "make Him a Baronet, make Him a Baronet, I thought you were going to ask me to make Him my physician." The ironical humour of this anecdote is clear when we remember an entry in Volume V. of the Diary, which goes: "Sir Walter Farquhar [he became a baronet in 1796] had a run for some time, being supported by the Duchess of Gordon,—Pitt &c.—but He was only in the 3rd. or 4th. line.—He never had the opinion of the other Physicians with Him, & it has been observed that, unless a Physician is supported in His reputation by the acknowledgment of his claim by the Corps of Physicians, His reputation will only be temporary." Beside his Baronetcy, Farquhar was appointed Physician in Ordinary to the Prince of Wales.

The King's illness is mentioned frequently and we learn that in August, 1811, he "is now wholly insensible to who are about Him . . . His mind is constantly occupied with ideas of former times & persons . . . His bodily health is better but his malady appears to be fixed." His thoughts "run upon Henry the 8th & Cardinal Wolsey, & He is heard to hold supposed conversations with them respecting their political & other proceedings, and puts questions to them for reasons for their conduct . . . He is cheerful on the whole and 'never forgets that He is a King'."

The Prince of Wales (now Regent) appears in several chapters. Benjamin West, who was much with the Royal Family when the children were young, says that in boyhood the Regent was "good tempered but timid. On the contrary

the Duke of York was full of courage, & so were the other boys. The Prince Regent was desirous to learn to Skait, but having suffered a few falls He could not be induced to expose himself again to the chance of suffering for them. The Duke did not regard the pain but persisted."

To the Regent's love of Art the Royal collections owe more than one masterpiece. In the Lafontaine Sale in 1811 Lord Yarmouth purchased for him pictures to the amount of £15,000, Rembrandt's "Master Shipbuilder" accounting for £5250 of that sum. The well-known "Three Heads of Charles I", by Vandyck, was bought also by the Regent.

The monotony of certain State functions finds illustration in an entry of June 20, 1811. On the previous night the Regent held a fête at Carlton House in honour of the King's birthday, and although there were present many carefully chosen Foreign Princes, Ambassadors, British Members of State, Duchesses, Marchionesses, & Countesses, and great display & splendours, Lord Lonsdale declared that "He was never so tired in His life." Sir Thomas Lawrence who was at the fête says that the Regent invited Lady Charlotte Campbell, sister of the Duke of Argyll, but she frankly admitted that "in Her situation [as a Lady-in-Waiting], she could not afford the expense of a dress. This objection the Prince obviated" by presenting her with a dress. "He also sent a card & ordered a dress for Miss Fitzherbert, but on her enquiring whether she was to be admitted to His Royal Highness's table & being informed that was not intended, she declined going to the fête."

Caroline Princess & the aftermath of "The Delicate Investigation" are the subject of much comment as are the foibles of her daughter, Princess Charlotte. The story of her engagement is delightful. Her father, the Prince Regent, thinking it was time that she should marry, said to her "half in Joke & half in earnest, . . . Charlotte, we must begin to think of looking out for a Husband for you, but I will never press any one upon you without your consent." The Prince of Orange appeared and, the subject of her marriage having been mentioned in his presence, the Regent said to him that he would be considered as one of the competitors for her hand, to which the Prince replied, "I should have reason to be proud if admitted into such a competition." Charlotte at first was favourable to the scheme, and "preparations were made to carry the proposed marriage into effect, and all seemed to be settled, when suddenly she declared Her dissent. The Regent was extremely mortified at Her conduct, as were all those who were in situations abt. Her. Her Tutor, speaking of what She had done, called Her 'Our Jilt'."

We hear much of politicians. The King said that the first Marquess of Lansdowne was the best bred man he had ever met. Lord Bute although very unpopular "had strong feelings of humanity" and much charity in his mind. "During His life-time there were several persons who recd. annually sums of money coming from whence they did not know till His death when these sums were no longer sent, it was found from what source they came. Excepting some stiffness and dryness of manner which operated against Him, and His strong partiality for Scotch people, He seems to have had nothing to cause a prejudice against [him]. . . . This national partiality He had in common with the late Lord Melville which shows that it can possess the strongest & most experienced minds."

The bitter enmity between Sir Philip Francis and Warren Hastings is referred to in Chapter XV, and later we read that at a dinner party the Prince Regent "expressed His strong & habitual dislike of Lord Grey, and in such a manner as to

cause Lord Lauderdale to say that the regard & respect He had for Lord Grey wd. not permit Him to hear such opinions of Him, which caused the Prince to drop the subject for a while, but He afterwards returned to it." Of Lord Grenville it is said that by inconsistency he has "lost that respect which was formerly attached to His character." Lord Liverpool "is spoken of as possessing an excellent judgment in debate, having always sufficient to say, & never committing Himself. . . . He is one of the best tempered men living." The Marquess Wellesley "did not think there was any of our Statesmen except Mr. Canning that possessed what He would call eloquence. . . ." He, the Marquess, "did not seem to be of opinion that the Prince Regent has any strong attachments to persons. In a sarcastic way He said, 'The Prince has no prejudices of this kind'."

In the course of after-dinner conversation Charles James Fox declared that Life was too short. He would like to live 500 years. Asked how he would employ his time, Fox replied, "200 years should be disposed of in acquiring knowledge, 100 years for my country, and 200 years preparing for futurity." This conversation, Farington postulates, "shewed that whatever Mr. Fox's sentiments were at a former period which were well known not to be religious, that when He came to an advanced period of life He had serious considerations respecting eternity." At breakfast one morning at Cole Orton "Lady Beaumont spoke of the ease with which women of fashion who have been irregular in their conduct are admitted into what is called respectable Society, as a proof that there is little regard to Morals. Sir George said that Charles Fox had contributed more than any other person to this laxity in intercourse by introducing Mrs. Armstead His mistress, a woman who had been very common, into company after He married Her. His influence in society was such that she visited with him some of the first families in rank. He added that taking Him altogether politically and otherwise He had done more harm than any other man of His time, in which opinion I [Farington] entirely concurred."

Plain speaking about famous lawyers may be noted. "Lord Chancellor Eldon is a man of very limited knowledge; that which He has is confined to the *law* . . . the Chancellor decides with much hesitation, so protracts the business of the Court, that it has become most expensive and almost hopeless as to termination. His income from His situation is very great, perhaps £25,000 a year. He is parsimonious, and scarcely ever gives a dinner." Sir Samuel Romilly "is a man highly educated; knows many languages, is a good scholar, and deeply acquainted with the Law. His temper is the only thing against Him, it being sour, not agreeable. His eloquence is of a kind extremely proper for a Chancery Court, where strong reasoning upon facts & circumstances exhibited is the business of the Advocate, not, as in the Court of King's Bench, an appeal to the feelings & an endeavour to influence the passions of a Jury." James Boswell, the younger, mentioned "Lord Ellenborough as being the worst tempered man alive." Elsewhere in the volume he is said to be "a voluptuary, remarkable for indulging Himself in eating of High dishes & rich food, & that in great quantity. He also drinks freely both abroad and at Home. He is an entertaining companion at table, full of anecdote & information. He is not much liked by the Lawyers in His judicial capacity."

While Farington was Sir George Beaumont's guest at Cole Orton, in 1812, literary men were frequently the subject of conversation. The host himself, speaking of Wordsworth, said that "He is as much superior to *Walter Scott* as

Claude to me in painting."—Sir George was a clever amateur artist. He, however, admitted that Wordsworth's reputation as a poet wd. have stood higher had the two volumes of His poems contained only those which would be generally approved. Many of them are thought to be " so puerile in their simplicity & these have been dwelt upon by the Critics in reviews to the disadvantage of His better works." The Poet's lines to the memory of Sir Joshua Reynolds are given with proposed alterations, and at noon on October 30, 1812, Sir George & Lady Beaumont, Owen [R.A.] and Farington walked to the " Arbour in which Sir George had given directions to have a monument to the memory of Sir Joshua Reynolds erected, and there the Workmen being assembled the first stone was laid with due form by Sir George, Lady Beaumont, Owen & myself; and afterwards each of us in turn struck the stone with a mallet Lady Beaumont saying 'May nothing but *Time* destroy this Monument'."

Here is Coleridge as a sort of Captain Cuttle: " Lady Beaumont told us that Coleridge, the Poet, & author, who she much admires, makes it a rule to write the substance of the conversations which He has with any persons who call upon Him and with it observations of their characters. He does not do it so far methodically as to make a regular continuation of what He does in this way, but takes any piece of paper that may be at hand, so that He loses by carelessness much of what He takes the trouble to note down."

We are also informed by Lady Beaumont that " Coleridge considers Reviews & the multiplication of newspapers as tending to amuse the mind superficially, and that at former periods when Lord Bacon & other great Philosophers & deep thinkers lived there being no such light matter in circulation the minds of men were employed in a more solid manner."

The Royal Family was talked about, & Owen stated " that the Prince of Wales in speaking of the Kings who had reigned in England had said that Charles the Second was the only King of the whole number that could be lived with as a gentleman. Lady Beaumont said it [had] been remarked of the Queen that she had never been known to forget for a moment that she was *Queen*.—C. Long [afterwards Lord Farnborough] was mentioned as having said that the Duke of Clarence has the best abilities of any of the present Royal Family."

According to John Taylor, once editor of the *Morning Post*, R. B. Sheridan's affairs in 1814 " continue to be so distressed that He was lately arrested and kept for two days in a Lock-up House. He said that Sheridan is no longer in request at Carlton House. The circumstance of His personal confinement made an impression on His mind, so *Linley*, His Brother in Law, told Taylor. Happening soon after, while at dinner, to Hear a clattering noise in the next room He was much alarmed, manifestly from apprehension of another arrest. On discovering that there was no material cause for it He endeavoured to turn it off lightly. Such was the situation of perhaps the first genius of the age."

James Boswell, the younger, said that his " Father, who wrote the life of Dr. Johnson, had a fancy to collect from many able men their respective opinions [on] How *Taste* should be defined.—Among others He applied to Lord Eldon who said I won't tell you what I think, because you will print it. Boswell assured Him He wd. not. Then sd. Lord Eldon, my opinion is that *Taste* is that faculty of the mind which enables a Scotchman to prefer England to Scotland."

Other literary people referred to include Samuel Rogers, Marie Edgworth, Lady Caroline Lamb, Lord Byron, Hannah More, and Leigh Hunt.

Consideration of Art and Artists occupies much space. Turner's autocratic concern about the hanging of his "Hannibal Crossing the Alps" is recorded, and Sir George Beaumont vehemently asserts that Turner "had done more harm in misleading the taste than any other artist. At His setting out He painted some pictures, 'The Plagues in Egypt,' which gave great promise of His becoming an artist of high eminence, but He had fallen into a manner that was neither true or consistent, His distances were sometimes properly finished, but when He came to the foreground it bore no proportion in finishing to the distance beyond it. I shall never scruple to express my opinion because I think it is proper so to do when a bad taste is prevailing."

The effect of Sir George's criticism was so great that Turner did not sell a picture "for some time past." That was in the spring of 1813, and the artist at first decided not again to exhibit, but he ultimately "altered his mind and determined not to give way before Sir George's remarks."

Recognition of Constable's was slow in coming. As late as May 5, 1813, he wondered whether he should put down his name "as a candidate for the situation of Associate, He being inclined so to do to keep his name before the Academicians." Farington says, "I told him I thought it advisable for Him to put His name down." Constable, however, was not made an Associate of the Academy until 1819, when he was 43 years of age, and he had to wait ten more years before he was raised to full rank. The industry and extraordinary success of Sir Thomas Lawrence are noted, and Lascelles Hoppner tells Farington that "from the period of his Father's death He had been principally occupied in finishing pictures begun by His Father,—so as not to have been able to do much that might be called His own work." That may account for the feebleness of many pictures ascribed to John Hoppner.

The love affairs of Angelica Kauffman, R.A., are mentioned in Chapter XIX, in connection with the death of Sir Nathaniel Dance, R.A., who assumed the name of Holland after his marriage to a wealthy widow. His brother, George Dance, says he was a man of very strong affections, which were "shown in His passionate love of the late Angelica Kauffman, R.A. With Her He had become acquainted at Rome, & an attachment most sincere on His side grew out of it. They came to England and were then pledged to each other to marry by every possible declaration.—While He was in this state of confidence she witht. explanation or anything preceding it shut Her door against Him. His distress was excessive, even to a degree to quite unman Him in His expressions of grief.

At that time He resided in Tavistock row, Covent Garden, and practised His profession History & Portrait Painting; and it was believed by many, that the views of Angelica were then turned from Him to Sir Joshua Reynolds who was induced by Her personal accomplishments and Her talent in Painting, to pay much attention to Her but probably never with any serious intention."

Anecdotes of actors also entertain us. John Philip Kemble lately returned from Edinburgh in 1811, "remarked to Lawrence the great difference which there is between an English & a Scotch audience. The latter, He sd. never clap till the end of a Scene, so that there is not the least interruption from such sounds, but as the clapping is reserved till this period the approbation goes without discrimination to all who have appeared in the scene. The only sign of particular approbation is seen occasionally where a few of the more select men of Edinburgh are seated together. These when they are most impressed with an Actor's power,

will then turn round & looking at each other [say] Eh ! but no louder expression of their approbation.—

He has had an offer of £6000 to go to America for one Season. At Covent Garden He has 12 guineas a night; Mrs. Siddons has 50 guineas a night.—Perry, Editor of the *Morning Chronicle*, told Lawrence that the rects. at Covent Garden Theatre the last Season were more than £104,000."

Opinions naturally vary as to Kemble's histrionic abilities. Fuseli, for instance, gave Betty, the "Boy Roscius," preference "over Kemble & all other Tragedians, as having more nature & originality." In this estimate George Dance, the architect, concurred, "saying he wd. rather see Betty in a Character than a thousand Kembles." Betty received £50 a night for four weeks' engagement at Covent Garden Theatre, two before Christmas, 1812, and two after Christmas, and we are told that his father "had accumlated £34,000 by his Son's acting & that he had purchased an estate in Worcestershire or Shropshire for which he gave £40,000 & to make up that Sum He borrowed £4000."

Edmund Kean makes his first appearance in the Diary on March 2, 1814, as an actor of "extraordinary Talents . . . perfectly *original* in His manner of representing characters. . . . Wroughton an Old actor spoke of Him as having much of what *Garrick* possessed." That is a good beginning, but five days later it is said that "He was puffed beyond His claim, probably to fill the Drury Lane Theatre which was reduced almost to Bankruptcy." Abuse continues. On the 30th of the same month he is called a "*Humbug*": "His acting is often false & without anything like classical taste." In short, "He is a *Pot House* actor," according to John Taylor, critic of the *Sun* newspaper. Opposition came mainly from "the admirers & *friends* of Kemble," but those "who remembered Garrick spoke highly of Him [Kean]," which "seemed to mean that those who felt *nature* strongly approved Kean, while those who were devoted to the art of the Kemble school disapproved Him." Sir George Beaumont, after seeing Kean as Richard III, "was decidedly of opinion that no actor since Garrick exhibited so much genuine *feeling for nature*. At times, sd. He, He appears to be Richard himself. He never," Sir George went on, "can have dignity or grace, His person is too diminutive, but He is a true natural actor, and wholly free from the measured practice of the Kemble school."

Malone, the Shakespearean scholar, spoke of Mrs. Siddons on December 3, 1811, "as being a great *Tragic Actress*, but naturally, and still more by habit, unfit for comic characters. Her manner, in common life, is a measured, artificial manner, which is manifest whenever she appears in Comedy,—Her voice said He, was never good,—and Her powers (physically) have now so far failed that I think it is time for Her to quit the stage."

On June 29 in the following year she started to "quit the stage" in the first of a series of "Farewells." The Play was Macbeth, and Covent Garden Theatre was crowded in every part. "Persons of high distinction," says Farington, "were in the uppermost Boxes,—Ladies as well as gentlemen. . . . When Mrs. Siddons walked off the stage in Her last scene, where she appears as walking in her sleep, there was a long continued burst of applause, which caused Kemble &c. to conclude that it was the wish of the spectators that the Play should there stop. The curtain was dropped and the tumult continued until it was again drawn up, and Mrs. Siddons appeared in Her own character. She was dressed in White Sattin & had on a long veil. She arose, but it was some time before she could speak the clapping and other sounds of approbation rendering it impossible for Her to be

heard. She curtsied & bowed, & at last there was silence. At 10 oClock precisely she began to speak Her farewell address which took up Eight minutes which time there was profound silence. Having finished, the loudest applause &c. followed, & she withdrew bowing & led off by an attendant who advanced for that purpose. . . . Her appearance was that of a person distressed & sunk in spirits, but I did not perceive that she shed tears. . . . Kemble . . . wiped His eyes, and appeared to have been weeping."

The above is a brief Summary of the more important entries, but there are numerous interesting and entertaining stories scattered throughout the volume relating to the Newspapers of Calcutta and the expense of living there, Sussex, Ships and British seamen, The secrets of a cricket ball, London Clubs, Style in writing, Bristol merchants, Catholic emancipation, Loose women, Lunacy, Old Dulwich College, Life in the Fleet Prison, Wilberforce at Clapham Park, Holidays in Kent and East Anglia, Publishing and book prices, the Painted Ceiling at Greenwich, Smugglers at Hastings, Labour in America, Improving London, and so on.

It may be noted that the annotations of this volume are not so full, particularly in the later chapters, as are those of its predecessors. The reasons for this meagreness need not be given at present.

For the Index Messrs. Hutchinson, the publishers, are again wholly responsible.

JAMES GREIG.

Savage Club,
September 10, 1927.

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THE FARINGTON DIARY

CHAPTER I

1811

West's Success

June 10.—The Royal Academy I called at, & was told by the Deputy Secretary, that only 3 pictures had been sold.—

June 11.—West spoke of the large Sum which had already been raised by the Subscription for His picture of "Christ Healing the Sick" and by the Exhibition of it, & by subscriptions for a Print from it, viz:

By subscription	£2,000.
„ money recd. at the door of the British Institution upwards of....	2,500.
„ subscriptions for a Print from it.....	2,200.
	£6,700 & upwards.

West told us that at the last Academy dinner the Prince Regent remarked to Him that He thought the pictures wd. be much better seen than they were by Candle light at present, the Candles being placed on the tables were too much on a level with the pictures & caused a glare.—Soon after He resumed the subject, & said, If it wd. be agreeable to the Academy He would present them [with] a [chandelier] to be suspended from the top of the Center of the room. A little time after the Marquiss of Stafford called upon West from the Prince on this subject, and in consequence a Council of the Academy has been called for Monday next to consult with the Pallmall firm that execute business of this kind for the Prince.—

The Berkeley Peerage

June 12.—Lysons I drank tea with. He had been at the House of Lords attending the Berkeley Cause, & did not leave the House till past 7

oClock, the Lords being desirous to have all the evidence finished except that of Admiral Prescott.—The Sense of the House is decided against the Claim.—When the Cause commenced Serjeant Best was confident of establishing the Claim in a few days, but now looks His disappointment.—Sir Saml. Romilly also thought it wd. be carried. Sir Thomas Plomer, Solicitor General, has gained great credit by His ability & perseverance in proving the forgery of a pretended *former* marriage of the late Lord Berkeley with the present Dowager Countess Berkeley.—The only marriage that can be proved is that in 1796.—*

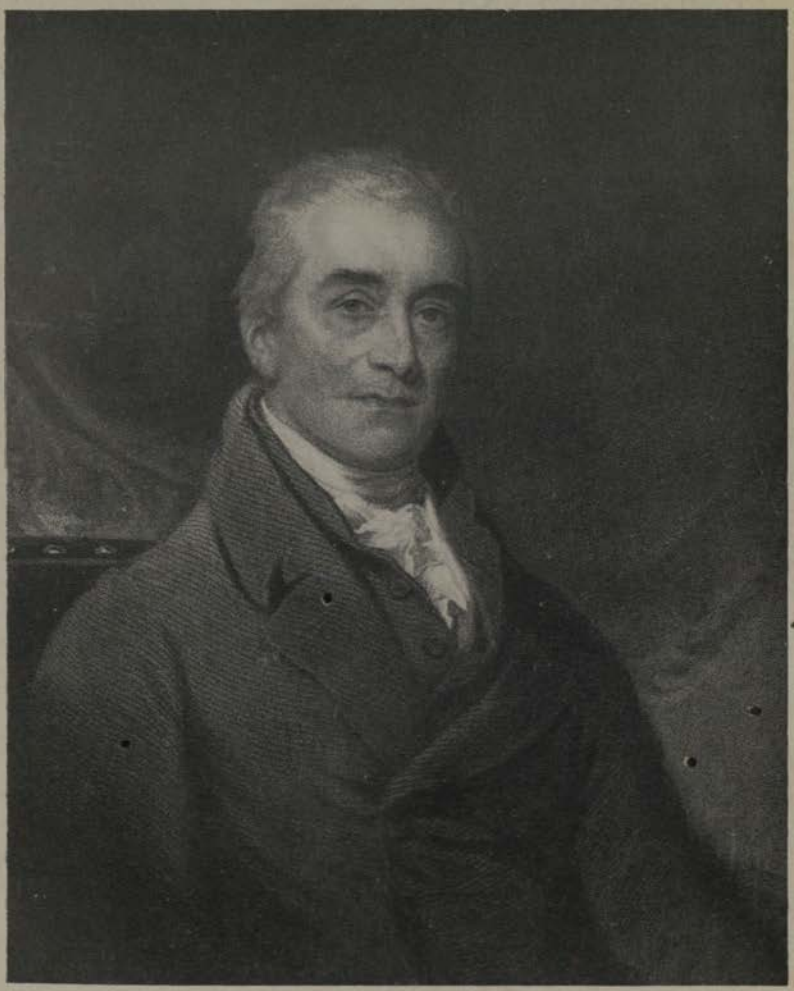
Famous Lawyers

June 14.—Mr. S. Girdlestone's 28 Upper Guildford St. I dined at.—Mr. Girdlestone is a Solicitor, & we had some conversation respecting Law Characters. He sd. the present Lord Chancellor Eldon is a man of very limited knowledge; that which He has is confined to the *Law*. His Brother, Sir William Scott, Judge of the High Court of Admiralty is, compared with the Chancellor, a very superior man, He having very extensive knowledge of Languages and on most subjects, with great sagacity & decission. On the contrary the Chancellor decides with such hesitation, so protracts the business of that Court, that it has become most expensive & almost hopeless as to the termination of it.—The Cases submitted to Him have so greatly multiplied as to cause a proposal for an Assistant to Him, but as this wd. subtract from His fees, is not likely soon to be agreed.

His income from His situation is very great, perhaps £25,000 a year. He is extremely parsimonious, and scarcely ever gives a dinner. In the Court He questions, makes the business slow, carries the papers home for consideration, gives another hearing to a cause, again carries the papers home, will again hear, & again carry back the papers, & something else having occupied His attention, this case will be added to heaps of other cases & pass from His mind.—Were it not sd. Mr. Girdlestone, for the admirable manner in which Sir Wm. Grant, Master of the Rolls, gets on with business little indeed wd. be done, & the public wd. become desperate abt. it.—

Of Sir Saml. Romilly, He sd. that He is a man highly educated; knows many languages, is a good scholar; and deeply acquainted with the Law. His temper is the only thing against Him, it being sour, not

* Frederick Augustus, fifth Earl of Berkeley (1745-1810), "very privately" married Mary Cole, daughter of a Gloucester publican or butcher, at Lambeth Church, Surrey, on May 16, 1796. The Earl tried to prove that he had married Miss Cole on March 30, 1785, but he failed to establish his case in the House of Lords. The eldest son, born before the marriage of 1796, assumed the courtesy title of Viscount Dursley, and sat in the House of Commons under that name. After his father's death in 1810 his claim, as referred to by Lysons, was disallowed by the House of Lords on July 1, 1811. It was generally believed that the 1785 marriage entry in the Berkeley Parish Register was forged by the fifth Earl himself. (See Vol. I., page 272.)



SIR SAMUEL ROMILLY, EMINENT LAWYER
By Sir Thomas Lawrence

To face p. 2

agreeable. His eloquence is of a kind extremely proper for a Chancery Court, where strong reasoning upon the facts & circumstances exhibited is the business of the Advocate, not, as in the Court of King's Bench an appeal to the feelings & an endeavour to influence the passions of a Jury. The Professional Income of Sir Saml. is greater than that of any other Council that has been known. The last year He made £16,000.—Sir Thomas Plomer is an able man, but he is indolent.—

The Prince Regent and Rembrandt

Mr. A. Phipps called and wrote directions for my visiting Him at His House at Abbots Langley.—He told me that at a Sale of Pictures, at Christies, on Tuesday or Wednesday last, Lord Yarmouth bought pictures for the Prince Regent to the amount of £15,000.—He gave 5000 gs.* for a picture by Rembrandt.—

Morals and Principles

June 15.—Lady Thomond I called on and had long conversation. She told me she remained in town in consequence of having recd. a card of invitation to the Prince Regent's Fete to be given on Wednesday the 19th inst. in Honor of His Majesty's Birth day, She had heard that the number of invitations issued amounted to 3000, and was indiscriminate, including persons of all descriptions as to Politics & manners. Sir Francis Burdett, Coll. Wardle, were sd. to be of the number, and in Higher life the Duke & Duchess of Argyle who had lately made a Scotch marriage, the Duchess not having been divorced in England from Her Husband, Lord Paget,—and He (Lord Paget) had since made the same sort of marriage with Lady Charlotte Wellesley who had quitted Her Husband for Him.—Thus are morals and principles disregarded.†

She spoke of the Marquise Wellesley who by His excessive extravagance has expended His Fortune, Yet under these circumstances He has had a *George* made for Him as Knight of the Garter, which is wholly composed of diamonds, and the Price of it £2000. It is now at Picket & Rundells,

* In the Lafontaine sale of pictures on the day mentioned Lord Yarmouth's purchases for the Prince Regent included Rembrandt's famous "The Master Shipbuilder" (£5,250), A. Van de Velde's "Landscape and Cattle" (£1,890), Wouverman's "Hay Harvest" (£1,785), A. van Ostade's "Flemish Interior" (£1,050); A "Flemish Fête," by Teniers (£1,732 10s.), and "A Lady Stringing Pearls," by F. van Mieris (£1,050). In the Henry Hope sale, 1816, his Lordship also purchased for the Prince the Rembrandt "Burgomaster Pancras and Wife" for £300. The "Burgomaster" and the "Shipbuilder" are in Buckingham Palace.

It may be repeated that in the 1807 Lafontaine sale Rembrandt's "The Woman Taken in Adultery," now No. 45 in the National Gallery, cost £5,250.

† Lord Paget, afterwards first Marquess of Anglesey, married first in 1795 Caroline Elizabeth, daughter of George fourth Earl of Jersey, who divorced him in Scotland in 1810, and married as her second husband the sixth Duke of Argyll. Lord Paget married secondly, as stated, Charlotte (previously the wife of Sir Henry Wellesley, afterwards first Baron Cowley), daughter of the first Earl of Cadogan. She was divorced by Act of Parliament, Sir Henry Wellesley, her husband, obtaining £24,000 damages in a trial for *crim. con.*

the Jewellers, who, however, will not deliver it to Him till the money is paid. Though He is an Ugly little man, his personal vanity is excessive. He now keeps a woman of a very low order, & is profuse in His expenditure upon Her.—He is sedulously courting the Prince Regent's favour by every means in His power.—

A Reynolds Exhibition

She informed me that Sir George Beaumont has taken a lead in forming a Plan for making an Exhibition to consist of the works of Sir Joshua Reynolds only. It is proposed to have it in May 1812.—She again expressed a desire to dispose of Her pictures by Sir Joshua, viz.: The pictures from which the Paintings on Glass for New College, Oxford, were executed. The price she mentioned was £5000 for the whole of this set. She has had an offer of £1000 each for the two pictures, "Charity" —and, "Justice".—

She told me that a Cause had been decided against [her] which had cost Her £5000.—It was an action brought against Her as Executrix of Her Husband, The Marquiss of Thomond, to pay Bonds which He had given for the convenience of His relations, & which, she sd. shd. have been paid by the Family Estate, but by inatention of the Marquiss, & negligence in His Attorney the Bonds were so worded as to make Her liable to pay.—

CHAPTER II

1811

A Painter's Affairs

June 16.—The Academy I went to before dinner, & there saw Fuseli.—The Exhibition closed yesterday,—the receipts greater than at any former period except the first year—viz: 1780.

June 17.—J. Lane told me that on examining De Cort's House after His death there was found no more than five Shillings. Bellchambers, the master of the Cambridge Coffee House, has taken upon Himself to manage the affairs, & He, and a woman who acted as Servant to De Cort, were the persons who made this report which varies much from De Cort's declaration to Lord de Dunstanville that when He shd. have finished the three pictures for the late Mr. Henry Hope, viz: views of Mr. Hope's House in Holland for which He was to have 500 guineas, He shd. be independent.—After De Cort's death Mr. Hope who had advanced 300 guineas, offered to pay 300 gs. more for the benefit of De Cort's family & wd. have lodged the money in proper hands for that purpose, but Bellchambers wd. not give up the pictures though unfinished, unless the money shd. be paid to Him. This was not judged to be a proper mode for De Cort's family being secured in it; Mr. Hope died, & the money is lost.—Segur Junr. gave to Lane this acct. He having been employed by Mr. Hope in this negotiation.—

[On June 29 Farington went to the Cambridge Coffee House, & there saw several Portfolios containing drawings by the late Henry de Cort, the Flemish Landscape Painter, mostly views in England and Wales.—A young man, Son of Bellchambers, who keeps the Coffee House, had been pupil with De Cort 4 or 5 years. He shewed me the drawings. He said De Cort was 71 years old when He died which was after an illness of a few days, an inflammation on the lungs. He had no apprehension of death though labouring under great difficulty of breathing. He made no Will.

As He became older He became penurious, avoiding expense as much as He could. He lived very frugally in respect of eating, but He allowed Himself wine and usually drank a Bottle in three days; Port wine. He was unremitting in application to His professional studies, drawing at

night in addition to Painting or drawing in the day time.—He usually arose abt. 9 oClock & from Ten till five wd. apply to Painting, or in the Summer Season would dine at an earlier Hour and in the afternoon wd. go out to sketch.]

Fete at Carlton House

June 20.—Lady Lonsdale & Ladies Anne & Caroline Lowther were last night at the Prince Regent's Fete at Carlton House [in honour of the King's birthday],—went at ½ past 11 & remained till ½ past 4.—At the Prince Regent's table the company was limited to Foreign Princes, Ambassadors, The British Ministers of State, Duchesses, Marchionesses, and such Countesses only, as the Prince chose to select.—Lord Lonsdale said He never was more tired in His life; and that though there was much display & splendour, it fell far short of the magnificence of a Fete at Windsor given some years since by the King, where the large apartments of the Castle afforded more grandeur of effect.—

Ward shewed me a picture today which He intended to offer to the Royal Academy as His *Probationary Picture;* the subject two naked Bacchanalian Children, a performance much inferior in merit to His pictures of Horses. He said He chose to send this picture, because He did not like to be admitted into the Academy as a Horse-Painter.—

Effect of Light

The Academy I went to at 9 oClock to see a frame with lights which had been suspended from the Center of the ceiling of the great room for the purpose of seeing the effect which light so placed wd. have upon the pictures. I remarked that this light wd. have a good effect upon the pictures hung *upon the line*, but that the lower part of the room wd. be so dark that it wd. still be necessary to have lights upon the *dinner tables* or the company who might sit with their backs to this suspended light would not be seen by those opposite to them.—The Marquiss of Stafford was there, He having been deputed by the Prince Regent to settle this business with the Academy, & it was expressed that the Prince had limited the expenditure to £500.—The Marquiss was pleased with the effect of the light.—A Resolution, approving the light as exhibited this even'g was passed unanimously.—

Water Colours *versus* Oil

June 21.—The Water Colour Painters Exhibition in Spring Gardens I went to. On my way I met Sir Willm. Cockburn who told me there no longer remained any hope of keeping up an Annual *Bath Exhibition* of Pictures, the people resident in that City shewing no disposition to visit it so as to produce Door-money enough for its support.—Sir Harry Englefield I met at this Exhibition. He remarked upon two drawings as being

of superior quality, viz: "Nash's inside of Westminster Abbey", & Wm. Westall's "view of London Bridge".—He observed that drawings now seemed to supersede painting, and that the latter art wd. be neglected which was to be regretted. I told Him there was no danger of such a consequence—drawings might for a time prevail, but Painting wd. continue to be established.

June 22.—Edwd. Stephenson, the Banker, I met. We talked of Cumberland & I spoke to Him of Lodore Waterfall His property near Keswick. He said He had directed His Steward not to allow any trees to be cut down that grow in the vicinity of this Waterfall. I approved His caution, but told Him when I was there in 1808 I found the trees had grown so abundantly as to intercept every good view of it, & that much improvement might be made under judicious direction. He said that should I go there again He wd. rather leave this to my taste & direction than to that of any other person.

June 23.—T. Ramsey Reinagle Junr. I walked with. He said He had declined offers made to Him to go to places to paint or draw pictures for money, having thought it better to devote the Autumnal Season to the purpose of studying from nature in some picturesque country, & should go to the Lakes or to Wales for that purpose. He also meant to continue in the Country during the months of Septr. Octr. Novr. & probably December, as in the two latter months He found He did nothing in London during the dark weather. He proposed to leave London in August, as that period is early enough, the country being before that time *too green* for colouring.—

His Annual Wine Bill

J. Lane, Artist, called.—He spoke of Lord de Dunstanvilles mode of living formerly, when His public dinners were sumptuous, while at Tehidy. Lord D. told Him that now although the price of wine is much higher, His annual wine Bill was then Six times greater than it is at present. At that period He carried on many contested Elections & was much associated with the Prince of Wales. His Expences at Elections were so great that He with His family went abroad for three years, & since His return He has lived upon a different & much less expensive Plan.—Abt. a year or two [ago] an Old Lady, Mrs. C. —— died & left Him £90,000 & to Lady de Dunstanville £300 a yr.—He has now a great income.—

CHAPTER III

1811

Court Beauties

June 25.—Lawrence told me that at the Prince Regent's Fete, He recd. Louis 17th. (King of France) not as Count de Lisle, but as a *Sovereign*, in a room appointed for that purpose. The Prince told His Majesty that He cd. not in His own House receive Him but in His full character in *the first instance.* After this interview the King appeared in the Company as Count de Lisle.—The Prince Regent presented dresses to the Marchioness of Hertford & to Lady Charlotte Campbell,* sister of the Duke of Argyll. To Her He sent a Card in answer to which she frankly acknowledged that in Her situation she cd. not afford the expense of a dress. This objection the Prince obviated.—He also sent a card & ordered a dress for Mrs. Fitzherbert, but on Her enquiring whether she was to be admitted to His Royal Highnesses table & being informed that was not intended, she declined going to the Fete.—

He told me that it was said the Queen had recommended to the Prince upon this occasion not to invite women who had been notorious by any act of infidelity, & that in consequence Lady H——d was not invited, & others were also omitted.—

A Crowd at Carlton House

June 26.—Mrs. J. Offley with Her Son came after breakfast, & I went with Her to Philips's, the Surgeon in Pallmall, where we found much company & with a party of five more endeavoured to make our way through a Mob to the entrance of Carlton House I having a Ticket from Philips for that purpose. Such was the pressure of the Mob that we were soon dispersed & I was almost carried through the gates into the Court yard. After a long time I discovered Mrs. Offley & Her Son, who were

* Lady Charlotte Susan Maria Campbell (1775-1861), youngest daughter of the fifth Duke of Argyll, was one of the most beautiful women of her time. On the death of her first husband, Colonel John Campbell, in 1809, she was appointed Lady-in-Waiting in the household of the Princess of Wales, afterwards Queen Caroline, and during her period of service she kept a diary, which, when published, caused considerable sensation at Court and in social circles generally. After her second marriage she wrote a number of novels, which won considerable favour. They are now almost forgotten. See Vol. I., page 141, and Vol. II., pages 93 and 95.

taken through a window as were several hundred Ladies, whilst the men were let in at the door by degrees.—Before I got into the House more than an Hour & Half had passed.

The Pictures

Yeomen of the Guard & some Officers were placed in the room who continually called upon the people to go on so as to make it a moving scene.—In the rooms I saw many good pictures by Old Masters. In the Prince Regent's writing room a set of small pictures of the Royal Family, excepting the King, by Stroehling painted in a Vanderwerfe manner.—There are in the rooms many Portraits large of the Royal Family chiefly by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

From the Gardens the Company passed through the Stable yard to the Park at their leisure.—

Mr. Martyr said today—that having a Ticket for Carlton House He with Mrs. Martyr went to Pallmall in the afternoon where a vast mob was assembled. At 3 oClock the Duke of Clarence appeared standing upon the top of the wall which fronts the House. He bowed & waved His Hat as for silence, & was at last heard with attention. He said, "It was the desire of the Prince Regent, His Brother, to afford to the public a view of Carlton House, but that the pressure of people had become so great & in proportion the danger that no more persons wd. on any acct. be admitted."

Merchant Taylors' School

[Joseph] Minet I dined with at His House, No. 23 Finsbury Square. It was a Christening dinner of His little Boy.—Mr. Cherry is Head master of Merchant Taylor's School. He gave us many particulars respecting it. The number of Boys now there amounts to 170. The school is open to all the world; the payment very small. There [are] upwards of 30 scholarships at St. John's College, Oxford, to be filled from this school, and a Boy there educated if a vacancy happens whilst He is under 19 years of age & He happens to be in turn for it He is appointed to it.—Mr. Cherry's own situation is profitable chiefly arising from *Boarders*, He having 30 Boarders at this time. These Boarders pay £40 a yr. each.—

The Bishop's Fortune

Dr. Hughes I called upon on my way home & saw Him, Mrs. Hughes & Mrs. Watts. He shewed me a letter He had this day recd. from Dr. Majendie, Bishop of Bangor, offering Him a living in Wales.—He said the Bishop has come into possession of a large estate in Scotland valued at more than £100,000, it is in Dumfrieshire & the right to it had been long unsettled. It was possessed by a Family of the name of Carruthers,

who have now lost it & Mrs. Majendie as Heiress to another family has become possessed of it, together with £600 a yr. in Westmorland & other property. The Bishop has also had the good fortune of a mine being discovered upon His property as Bishop & altogether has now full £18000 a year.—

Mr. Twining, the India Director, & His two Sons were there. He spoke to me abt. a young man of the name of Haynes who had applied to the Court of Directors for leave to go to India as a Portrait & Miniature Painter, and He wished to obtain some information respecting Him. The Directors have no objection to an artist going, but have to guard against persons going with other views but under the name of Artists.—

Nollekens

June 28.—I dined alone. Nollekens I drank tea with.—He shewed me several Busts of distinguished persons which He had lately modelled or was now modelling. Though nearly 74 years of age He is thus engaged excepting on Sundays, always stands whilst He is at work, and some days is on His legs from ten oClock in the morning till five in the evening. He rises early, as soon after 6 as He can, & usually goes to bed abt. Half past Eleven oClock.

We talked of the death of Rigaud [R.A.]. Mrs. Nollekens thought it a happy circumstance that He died so suddenly, & that He did not live to linger in perhaps poverty, as she concluded He must have been supported by the Academy.—Bonomi the architect was spoken of. His wife, neice to Angelica Kauffman, recd. as directed by Angelica's Will £5000, which with what Bonomi left made up abt. £12000 3 pr. cents; and a House to live in.—Bonomi left several children.

CHAPTER IV

1811

Her Father's Confidante

July 4.—Mrs. Richards,* widow of John Richards [R.A.] the late Academy Secretary, called, and spoke to me abt. obtaining Her Pension, from the Academy. She said the property which Richards left did not when sold produce £500 & there were debts to be paid & some expences which wd. in Her expectation reduce it to not more than £200. of which by Richard's Will she was to have two-thirds & His daugr. one third. She said His daugr. now has £100 a yr. which was settled upon Her for Her life by Mr. Pitt Her Mother's Brother in case of Her surviving His widow who died abt. 2 years ago. She is now in Her 52nd year. Her mother was Mrs. Pitt, an actress.

Mrs. Richards spoke of Her late Husband's bad temper & sd. it was always so, She said she had been the advocate & friend of His daugr. though she was illegitimate, & had consented to or rather had induced Richards to allow Her to live with Him. Tyler advised Her against it, & told Her it wd. be attended with disagreeable consequences to Herself, which proved to be the case, as the daugr. became Her Father's confidante & she [the wife] was neglected. She sd. Richards never informed Her of His circumstances & she found Herself at His death witht. any means of support but such as she might receive from the Academy.—I recommended to Her to go to Mr. West and to claim Her Pension to Midsummer. She sd. she had been harshly treated by Turner.—

Theed, the Sculptor, called. He told me He had long been employed by Messrs Rundle & Bridge, Silversmiths, to model designs for ornamental works in Gold or Silver.—He came in consequence of conversation with Thomson, & said He had been many years an Exhibitor but never put His name down as a Candidate to be an Associate till this year.—

* Mrs. Richards was the daughter of "Wignal, the perfumer," says an old chronicle. John Inigo Richards himself was a landscape painter and principal scenic artist at Covent Garden Theatre. It was he who repaired Leonardo da Vinci's great cartoon, which hangs in the Diploma Gallery at the Royal Academy.

Kemble not Invited

July 5.—Kemble was disappointed at not being invited to the Prince Regent's *Fete*, and the more so as not long before He had attended the Prince Regent's Levee in consequence of it having been intimated to Him that the Prince expected it.—

Exhibition Profits

July 8.—Wm. Westall told me that on dividing the profits of the Spring Garden Water Colour Exhibition of this year the following Artists received.—

Heaphy	£120.
Glover.	60.
Nash.	30.—

Westall told me of a most liberal commission which He had recd. from Mr. Payne Knight, who called upon Him lately & said He much wished to have a Painting by Him the subject "The Grecian Marriage" to be the same generally with the large drawing made by Him for Mr. Chamberlayne & to be double the size of the drawing.—Mr. Knight said that He knew that such a picture would be a work of great labour (the size abt. 6 feet wide) and being sensible of it He would fix the price at *One Thousand Guineas*.—This noble commission Westall properly acknowledged.—

Earl Grey's Caution

July 9.—Thomson [R.A.] told me Earl Grey had been very attentive to him during his illness having several times called upon Him & had sat with Him in His Bedroom.—His Lordship pressed Him to go to His Seat at Howick in Northumberland, but having lost time owing to indisposition, He had declined it.—He observed that Lord Grey has an habitual caution in His conversation, always appearing to consider before He speaks. This Thomson accounted for from his having been Minister of State, & so high as a political character as to be conscious that all His sentiments are likely to be attended to.—

A New Theatre

On our way home, Northcote accompanying me, we were overtook in Parliament St. by Mr. Whitbread who told us the House of Commons had just broke up. He talked to Northcote abt. pictures which He was painting for Lord Grey.—He spoke of the rebuilding of Drury Lane Theatre, & said the business of settling all that related to it went on so well as to be nearly concluded. He mentioned a Model for a new Theatre designed by Benjamin Wyatt, Son of Jas. Wyatt, & spoke of it as being a

VISCOUNT MELVILLE
After a portrait by Raeburn

To face p. 12

very beautiful model, finished most accurately in all its parts.—From this I perceived that Wyatt wd. have His support & interest.—

July 11.—Lord Lonsdale wished to have my opinion abt. placing the three pictures of girls* by Sir Joshua Reynolds in the drawing room, & I fixed upon situations for them.—

Profligate People

July 13.—Lawrence related the following:—Lord & Lady O—— some years ago were upon such terms, that though it did not amount to a separation, yet living in the same House together they had separate establishments, and slept in separate beds. After a time Lady O—— was brought to bed of a Child, which Lord O—— knew not to be His child. He, however, reconciled himself to this saving that He objected to providing for the Child out of His own fortune. Sir F—— B—— being the Father of the Child, expressed Himself willing to provide for it, and advanced £5000 to begin with. This was placed in the hands of Mr. Scott one of Lady O——'s Brothers, who being an expensive man got into difficulties & now avoids His creditors by taking up His abode in Holyrood House, Edinburgh, a priviliged place. Sir F—— has lately commenced an action against Him to cause Him to refund the money for the purpose of having [it] settled & secured to the Child.—Such have been the proceedings of these profligate people.

The King's Humour

He mentioned an anecdote of the King who talking to His Physicians abt. making Peers, said, that one day the late Lord Melville, then Secretary of State, came to Him, and sd. the King I saw by His making two or three low bows & His looking very chearful that He had a favour to ask of me. After sometime He mentioned Farquhar, the Physician to me, & said it was the wish of His family that some mark of distinction should be conferred upon Him and added that as there were several Baronets to be soon made He hoped His Majesty wd. have no objection to Mr. Farquhar being of the number. "Yes, yes," replied the King, "make Him a Baronet, make Him a Baronet, I thought you were going to ask me to make Him my Physician." The humour of the King & the satire in His reply excited much merriment.

* "Innocence" or "The Crying Girl"; "The Laughing Girl," offered for sale in 1879, but apparently bought in at £1,365, for in the Lonsdale sale of 1887 Messrs. Agnew paid £360 for it; in 1879 "Robinetta," the third picture, was apparently sold for £1, 050.

CHAPTER V

1811

War with America

July 14.—Lord de Dunstanville's I dined at,—a family party.—We talked of the engagement between the American Commodore Rogers in the President of 44 guns & the English Brig Little Belt, Captn. Bingham of 18 guns,—whether it would lead to a war between the two Countries.—Lord de Dunstanville said No, that the American government wd. go [to] every other length but not to war with us. That in case of War their Sources of revenue, all derived or for the most part from *Customs* would be stopped; that with 7 sail of the Line & 12 frigates we should be able to destroy all their towns upon the Coast, and drive them into the interior, & that all they cd. do would be to take *Canada* which is of little consequences to us.—Another consequence wd. follow, it wd. lead to a separation of the different states to which they are already inclined from holding different political sentiments, the Northern States being friendly to England, & the Southern otherwise.—

He also observed that it is the *American government* which is unfavorable to England and the people not having that prejudice in favour of government which is found towards governments which have long been formed, will rise against it when they experience great losses from its conduct. In addition many of the superior men of that country are very well disposed to England: Randolph is so,—and Pinkney, the late Ambassador to England is extremely partial to British Connexion with America as being essential for the good of both countries. Rufus King holds similar sentiments.*

An Indiscreet Attack

Mr. Yorke, first Lord of the Admiralty, was spoken of as being a very able man, while, on the contrary, Lord de Dunstanville said, His Brother, Lord Hardwicke is of a very inferior order in respect of mental powers.—

* War between England and America actually began in 1812, and was ended by the Treaty of Ghent in 1814. It was caused mainly by England claiming to have the right to search American vessels for deserters from the English Navy and for other British subjects. Many Americans were captured and forced to fight for England. References to the war are made in later entries.

His Lordship remarked upon the indiscreet attack of Sir Joseph Yorke upon Mr. Whitbread in the House of Commons, reproaching Him with His being a Porter Brewer. This came with an ill grace from Sir Joseph, whose Grandfather Lord Hardwicke, an excellent Lord Chancellor who had risen by His merits, was son of an Attorney at Norwich and of a very low family.

Lord Grenville's political inconsistency was spoken of and the severe remarks of Lord Stanhope upon his conduct were well applied.—The pride of the Grenville's was noticed.

Opie and Peter Pindar

Mr. Penwarne told me, He having had an insight into the affairs, that *Opie's* property amounted to about £12,000 of which Mrs. Opie, His widow had one half. Opie's Sister recd. abt. £1200.—Opie had allowed His Mother & this sister £40 a year, out of which they saved £120, so frugal or rather parsimonious were their habits. This money they put into the hands of a person who became a Bankrupt, which, Opie when He heard of it rejoiced at saying the money was given to them to expend & they might have had more.—Mr. Penwarne sd. Opie had a scrophulous constitution, and His unremitting application to study, painting throughout the day, & reading or writing at night, was more than it cd. bear. Opie's labours in composing His Academy Lectures, said He, caused His death.—

Mr. Penwarne spoke of Dr. Wolcot, (Peter Pindar) and said "Wolcot now resides at Somers town, is nearly blind; is abt. 75 years old; His judgment continues but His memory has failed; He can compose a few lines in verse or in prose, but cannot connect His thoughts. He has an annuity of £250 from Booksellers, & some property in Cornwall which altogether makes up between 3 and £400 a year."—

July 15.—Mr. J. J. Angerstein's, at Woodlands (Blackheath) I went to with West & [Sir Thomas] Lawrence and dined. Coll. Shrapnel was the inventor of what are called "The Shrapnel Shells."

Commerce *versus* Agriculture

On our way we talked of the prospect of a war with America. West sd. that Occupiers & Cultivators of land in that country were the substance of it,—the strength of it,—Commerce He spoke of with disregard, & of the people in the Sea Coast towns, who looked only to commerce. His sentiments manifestly were for the discouragement of commerce & for the promotion of agriculture, making the former a consideration which shd. be very secondary to the latter.—

He spoke of the success attending the exhibition of His picture of

"Christ healing the Sick,"* at the British Institution, & sd. that after paying Him 3000 guineas & all other expences, they wd. be £2000 in pocket by it.—He sd. that it had happily proved that He had not overcharged the *King* when, for painting His design of the Crucifixion, for a painted window to be executed from it,—which picture was 28 feet high, and for the smaller picture, the *study*, of the same subject, 8 feet high, He asked only £1500, yet that sum was thought by those abt. the King to be a very high price.—

Wellclose Square

July 17.—I went with Northcote, who in walking through Wellclose-square & that neighboroud sd. it appeared to Him like a Country town, & excited in his mind a melancholy feeling such as He had always in those places.—I told Him I had the same kind of feeling when in Country towns,—the silence—the apparent want of population, when compared with the busy scene of London, caused a sensation similar to that which arises from being in a desolate situation.

* "Christ Healing the Sick" was painted in aid of a hospital to be erected in Philadelphia, but West accepted the 3,000 gs. on condition that he should be allowed to make a copy of it for the Quaker City, when the copy was exhibited there, and out of the money realised a wing was added to the hospital.

The original was presented to the National Gallery by the British Institution, and is, or was, on loan to the Nottingham Museum.

CHAPTER VI

1811

The Prince Regent

July 24.—I was at home all the morn'g.—Robt. Smirke I dined with,—no company. He spoke of having had a long conversation with Lord Lonsdale upon Political matters, His Lordship spoke of the situation of the present ministry, Messrs. Perceval &c with the Prince Regent. He said He had not the least idea that the Prince wd. in case of the death of the King, *change the Ministry*. They go on with Him extremely well, & manage public matters in a manner flattering to His mind. The proposed exchange of the Irish & English militias each to the other country, an excellent measure, He has believed to be His own suggestion & He is very proud of it.—The Ministry find Him nervous & fluctuating, and have much trouble in carrying on business with him as He has no punctuality as to time.—He was highly gratified at the Duke of York's restoration to office, & displeased with the conduct of opposition respecting it.—

The King's Religious Duty

His Lordship spoke of the King, and of the steadiness of His mind formed upon a high principle of religious duty. At the time His Majesty was shot at while on His way to the Parliament House some years ago, Lord Westmorland, with others, were in the Coach with him. The Ball struck the Coach, and caused as Lord Westmorland sd. to Lord Lonsdale, much agitation in Him & in all but the *King*, who sat unmoved, and said "There is one *Disposer* (Providence) only, and many to be disposed of."—

Mr. P. C. Yorke writes, Referring to the attack upon George 3 on his way to the House of Lords, of which Farington gives Lord Lonsdale's description, printed in yesterday's *Morning Post*, another description is given by Princess Elizabeth to Lady Harcourt, published by me in *Letters of Princess Elizabeth*, p. 37, and the King's words are elsewhere reported as :—"Well, my Lords, one person is proposing this, and another is supposing that, forgetting that there is One above us all who disposes of everything, and on whom alone we depend." I thought perhaps you might like to have this note.

Had any private Gentleman, said Ld. Lonsdale, been in the state in

which the King was at the commencement of His present indisposition, He would, long ago have been well, such is the opinion held. At times the King has been quite well, & at those periods became acquainted with all that had been done by Parliament respecting His illness. Unfortunately He has felt an anxious desire to be restored to His Political functions, to resume His situations, which has caused in Him extreme anxiety whenever the time has approached at which the Commissioners appointed were to go to Windsor to enquire into & make a report of His condition.—It always brought on some irritation, and the last time the Commissioners went before His present relapse, He sd. previous to their coming, that *He* would speak only to the two *Archbishops*, meaning thereby to have as little communication as possible. Accordingly He spoke to them & not to any of the other Commissioners, & preserved much calmness of manner, but this interview had such an effect upon Him that in the even'g of that day He became quite mad.—Being thus exposed to irritation it was Lord L's opinion that He would not recover.—

On Dit

July 25.—Northcote I dined with.—[John] Taylor spoke of the late Dr. Monsey* a singular character, with whom He was well acquainted —Monsey had lived much with Lord Godolphin, son of the Lord Treasurer Godolphin—His Lordship married one of the daughters of the Great Duke of Marlborough. He was a remarkably well bred man. In the latter part of His life He had narrowed His plan of amusements. It was noticed by Monsey that His reading was at last limited to two books, viz.: *Burnet's History of His own time*, and *Cibbers History of His own life & of the Stage*. These books always lay upon His table. Lady Godolphin had a great attachment to Congreve, the Poet. She had a daugr. who married the Duke of Leeds, & Her Grandmother, the famous Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, was accustomed to call Her "Mol. Congreve."

Northcote mentioned, That the late celebrated Mrs. Elizabeth Carter while speaking of a person who known as C—— said of Him to Prince Hoare, that "He was an elaborate Lyar."—

* Messenger Monsey (1693-1788) was a graduate of Pembroke College, Cambridge, and studied medicine under "silver-tongued Sir Benjamin" Wrench. Admitted extra licentiate of the College of Physicians in 1723, he began to practise at Bury St. Edmunds, where he was called to attend the Earl of Godolphin, who was taken ill on a journey. The Earl appreciated Monsey's services so highly that he asked him to come to London, and afterwards secured for him the appointment of physician to Chelsea Hospital, a post which he held until his death.

John Taylor, in his entertaining *Records of My Life*, gives an interesting account of the eccentric physician. One story told therein may be quoted:

"Dr. Monsey and the celebrated Mrs. Montague lived long in intimate friendship, and kept up a sort of ludicrous gallantry with each other. [The Earl of Bath was his rival in this flirtation.] I remember I once had the pleasure of meeting her at Dr. Monsey's, and of handing her to her carriage. I said as we went down stairs, 'Are you not afraid, Madame, of being known to visit a gentleman in his chambers?' 'Why, yes,' said she, 'considering my youth and beauty, and the youth of the gallant. I hope the meeting will not get into The *Morning Post*.'"

Monsey's only daughter married William Alexander, brother of the Earl of Caledon, and was grandmother of Robert Monsey Rolfe, the first Lord Cranworth, Lord Chancellor.

Taylor related that Southey, the Poet, requested the late celebrated Greek Professor *Porson*, to give Him an opinion of His works.—Porson did not much like the application, but answered " Your works will be read when *Homer & Milton* are forgotten."

The Harleian Miscellany

After the invitations to the late Great Fete at Carlton House had been issued Lady W———h, wife to one of the Lords of the Bedchamber, found herself omitted, & expressed much surprise and disatisfaction at it. Some one humourously said to Her, That it was supposed the invitations were given *Alphabetically*, & that the number was full before they arrived at the letter W. " That could not be, said Her Ladyship, for Half the Ws. (Wh———s) in town were invited."

A Lady of high rank has by Her indiscreet conduct made Herself much a subject of conversation, & Her reputed infidelity, has caused it to be said of Her children that being by various Fathers they may be called " The Harleian Miscellenay."—

Partiality for Scotland

July 27.—Lawrence I dined with, Robert Smirke only there.—Lord Castlereagh sat to Lawrence this [morning]. He spoke of himself & His situation in the government at the period of the Union with Ireland: He told Lawrence that after the measure of the Union had been effected, an offer was made to Him by the Ministry (Mr. Pitt &c.) of the Governor-Generalship of *Bengal*, which He declined.—

His Lordship spoke of the late Lord Melville, & said He had a partiality for Scotland such as might not have been expected in a man of His standing in the world, with views of mankind which might be supposed to do away [with] particular prejudices of this kind. But it was not so, He felt for Scotland all the partiality that has been remarked as a characteristick of the people of that Country.—

A Standing Joke

At the time the Union with Ireland was planning Sir Hercules Langrishe, an Irish Gentleman of political consequence, & a man of wit, came to England and negotiated much with the Ministers. In the course of conversation one day at a dinner table, the party consisting of Mr. Pitt, Lord Melville (then Mr. Dundas), Sir Hercules Langrishe & others, Mr. Dundas spoke of Scotland with His usual partiality, and said that for certain crimes committed, Banishment from their country was inflicted upon Criminals, meaning thereby that to be forced from Scotland was the heaviest of punishments.—Sir Hercules, in reply, asked Him, " Whether He had ever heard of a Criminal having returned from transportation ? "—This question caused much entertainment & remained a standing joke against Lord Melville.—

CHAPTER VII

1811

Mary and Sarah

July 28.—Having some indisposition, a common effect of very warm weather I remained at Home all the day,—the glass (Thermometer) in the North, in *Shade*, rose to 80½.—I read prayers,—the Lessons & Psalms of the day, & a Sermon to Mary James, my new maid servant: Sarah Whittaker, my other servant went to Church.—

An Improvident Dean

July 30.—Mrs. Offley mentioned Her having lived with Dr. Ferris, the late Dean of Battle, who married a young woman, a native of Cumberland witht. fortune, & by Her had 9 children. He had a good income, the whole of which He expended, having kept a carriage, and lived in constant habits of visiting & receiving company,—large dinner parties. He was a strong, fresh man in appearance, indolent in His habits, & much disposed to good fellowship. When He was abt. 72 years of age the Bishop of Chichester gave Him good preferment in the Cathedral of that place, whither He went to go through the necessary ceremonies of installment. The day on which this was to be performed proved to be damp with mizzly rain, & He, with others had to walk from the Bishop's Palace to the Cathedral, uncovered. During this exposure He caught cold; & the effect of it was so sudden that it was visible in His countenance while He was in the Reading Desk going through the service prescribed. His face from being full of His natural colour had become pale. From this time His health declined, a cough commenced—His figure & countenance [became] thin and emaciated, His spirits sunk & in 3 months He died.—So improvident had He been that when He died there was not Ten pounds in the House.

The Eldest Son

His ease & pleasure He had always studied, & was by His social manners very popular. He took no trouble abt. the education of His children, who, during their Hollidays from school were little or not at all attended to by Him. The fatigue of examining them He wd. not undergo. His widow, a woman who had had little education posessed a strong confident

mind, & bore up in the midst of the difficulties in which she was left. The Bishop of Chichester moved a subscription for the family which was successful. The children have done well. The eldest Son is a Captain in the Navy,—another Son is in the East Indies & two of the daughters are well married to Clergymen well situated in life.—The Captain took prizes, and out of the first profits sent His Mother £1,000.—

A Great Lawyer

August 1.—Landseer came to tea.—He spoke of Sir Saml. Romilly, the great Chancery Lawyer, having known Him from His youth. The Grandfather of Sir Samuel was a French Refugee; a Huguenot, who settled in England. Sir Samuel's Father was a Jeweller and Silversmith, & resided in Frith Street, Soho Square. He had two Sons; the eldest, Thomas, was brought up in His Father's business, & married a handsome young woman, His Cousin,* After His Father's death He did not, it is believed, pay all the attention that was necessary to the business & He became a Bankrupt: His wife died 8 or 10 years ago, and it is supposed He now very much depends upon His Brother Sir Samuel, for His support.—

Sir Samuel, the 2nd. Son, was brought up to study the Law, and resided much with His Father, where in a garret, with a charcoal fire, & surrounded by Law Books, He studied with great industry. It was with him Oeconomy and application. Thus He acquired knowledge and by persevering enquiry became more deeply informed in the knowledge of Chancery Law than any of His contemporaries, and His practice is as extensive as possible. He is married, & has Children,† & resides in Russel Square; but retains His Old Chambers in Lincolns Inn for business.—

His Temper

I mentioned to Landseer that I had been told that Sir Samuel Romilly's temper is not agreeable. This opinion He opposed & on the contrary thought Him a good tempered man. Landseer sd. that His own Father was a Jeweller, and worked with Mr. Romilly Senr. who, was the person that caused Him, Landseer, to be placed with Mr. Byrne, the Engraver.—From a long knowledge of Sir Samuel Romilly He gave Him the credit of having a good temper.—

Landseer mentioned a sharp retort given to Sir Samuel, who, in pleading before the Chancellor, said of the Advocate opposed to Him that "He wondered where He got His Law."—The other in His reply

* Jane Anne, second daughter of Isaac Romilly and mother of Joseph Romilly (1791-1864), Registrary of the University of Cambridge.

† Sir Samuel's wife Anne was the eldest daughter of Francis Garbett, of Knill Court, Herefordshire. He was very fond of her, and when she died, on October 29th, 1818, he shut himself up and committed suicide. They had one daughter and six sons. The second son, John Master of the Rolls, was created Lord Romilly in 1865.

noticing what Sir Samuel had thus sarcastically expressed, replied "That whatever law He had He obtained in the Garret from which Sir Samuel Romilly had descended."

Landseer mentioned a work carrying on by Engravers of the name of Cooke. They have published a series of views in the vicinity of the Thames, to which Letter press descriptions are added, & these, He said, Cooke informed Him were written by Wm. Combe [Dr. Syntax] who had been employed by Messrs. Boydells for the same purpose, which Landseer thought an improper act of Combe. These Engravers solicited Landseer to write descriptions for a series of *Coast views* which they mean to publish, and on His expressing a difficulty in obtaining materials for description unless by going to the Coast, they thought He might easily do [it] by consulting the published reports of others.—

The Best Bred Man

August 2.—Lawrence & Robt. Smirke dined with me.—Lord Camden had sat to Lawrence today for His Portrait and spoke of the late Marquiss of Lansdowne, elder Brother of the present Marquiss. He died a few years after his Father. While Lord Camden was Lord Lieutenant of Ireland during which the Rebellion of 1798 existed, and the troubles of the country were great, the Marquiss then Lord Wycombe, was in Ireland, and conducted himself in such a manner, associating with persons who were known to be disaffected & plotting, that the government thought it necessary to inform His Lordship that if He did not quit Ireland He would be taken up. When the Marquiss succeeded His Father in the Title, He became another man in politics, and professed to support the government. He had to wait upon the King to deliver the Order of the Garter which His Father had worn, & His address to His Majesty was such that the King afterwards said the Marquiss of Lansdowne was the best bred man He had ever met with.—

Lord Camden mentioned some remarkable particulars of the King's former indisposition, *in 1804*, which lasted but a short time. The Physicians thought it necessary to recommend a remedy, thought by them necessary to prevent secretions from operating upon the brain.—

Playing at King

Lawrence sd. He was with Lord Dundass yesterday who spoke of the great pressure of public business which fell upon the Prince *Regent* on His coming into that situation. He had to sign *His name*, Lord Dundass sd. He believed 14,000 times. He sat at a table with Genl. Turner on one hand, and Coll. McMahon on the other, the one placing a paper before Him for His signature, & the other drawing it away.—Lord Dundass, who attends much upon the Prince, happened to be there when He came out after having done much of this business. The Prince said to Him "Playing at King is no sinecure."—

CHAPTER VIII

1811

Lord Bute's Humanity

August 2.—Lawrence spoke of the late Lord Bute, who, after His retirement from the Ministry in a state of great unpopularity, lived the remainder of His life at High-Cliff in Hampshire in a state of close seclusion. Our late friend Hamilton R.A. was once with His Lordship at High Cliff professionally employed & spoke of His Lordship's habits, which strongly expressed His mind to have gloom upon it. He would in the evenings go down to the Sea Shore, and there, being quite alone, would walk for Hours, till Eleven or twelve oClock or later. He was a man who had strong feelings of humanity, had much charity in His mind. During His life time there were several persons who recd. annually sums of money coming from whence they did not know, till at His death, these sums being no longer sent it was found from what source they came:— Excepting some stiffness and dryness of manner which operated against Him, and His strong partiality for Scotch people, He seems to have had nothing to cause a prejudice against [him]. This national partiality He had in common with the late Lord Melville which shews that it can posess the strongest & most experienced minds.—

Sir Wm. Beechey has given an acct. of Saunders, the Scotch painter, who after having been very popular as a miniature painter at great prices, has given up that practise & now paints portraits, size of life in oil. He has 250 guineas for a whole length. He applies with great industry; rises at 4 oClock in the morning & goes to bed at 8 oClock at night.—

A Gala Spectacle

August 4.—At noon I went to Richmond to see Smirke & His family. Before dinner I walked with Smirke to the Bridge, and from thence saw a *Gala* spectacle of Boats which had come up with the tide, filled with parties of Men & Women making a gay show, Most of them appeared to have brought their dinners with them, & sat upon the grass in groupes both above & below the Bridge. It was an exhilerating & gratifying spectacle to see so great a number of decent people thus

enjoying the fresh air in so beautiful a scene as the vicinity of Richmond presents to the eye.—From whence we walked to the top of the Hill to contemplate the fine view of the river looking towards Twickenham.—

The Middle Men

In the course of our conversation Smirke mentioned the young Duke of Devonshire of whom He had happened to hear much & from good authority. This report was very much in favour of the Duke as being possessed of an excellent disposition. Though very young, having only lately completed His 21st. year, He has been in Ireland whither He went for the purpose of inquiring into and ameliorating the condition of His Father's tenants who suffer much from what are called the *Middle Men.* In Ireland He was taken ill, and could do little but hear the reports of others & was not able to effect anything material.—

August 9.—Lawrence had heard that in case of the death of the King, it is expected there will be a government formed of a *mixed kind*; and that Lords Mulgrave & Camden wd. go out, & Lord Moira be President of the Council,—Lord Castlereagh Master General of the Ordnance,—Mr. Canning Chancellor of the Exchequer, & that Mr. Perceval wd. be created a Peer.

The Worst Tempered Man

August 11.—Dance I dined with.—Professors of the Law were spoken of. Boswell mentioned Lord Ellenborough as being the worst tempered man living. For a time He & Sir Vicary Gibbs, the Council, were not upon good terms. Lord Ellenborough had shewn a disposition to check Him which the other replied to with due respect but effectually, which brought them upon better terms.—

Dance spoke of Physiognomy, & said "Who wd. have thought from His aspect & manner that the favorite pleasure of Sir Vicary Gibbs, the Attorney General, is *Musick.*"

Boswell sd. There was no doubt that in case of political changes, Sir Samuel Romilly wd. be Lord *Chancellor*, had He not so strongly supported Sir Francis Burdett, & other malcontents.—

August 13.—Lawrence called today, otherwise I was alone.—He called to shew me a correspondence with Lord Ellenborough respecting a Portrait of Lady Ellenborough. Lord Ellenborough objected to paying Half price on the first sittings, but would pay the whole immediately upon the picture being completed.—

August 15.—Lawrence called, & read me a correspondence with Lady Ellenborough an agreeable termination of a point agitated.—

August 17.—Mr. Malone I dined with.—We had various conversation.—Lord Ross & Mr. Malone expressed themselves to be perfectly free from apprehension with respect to Ireland & the proceedings of the Irish Roman Catholic faction, provided the government act firmly.—Lord Ross spoke of His intercourse with the nobility who form the House of Lords, & said that generally they are men witht. energy of mind, men who have no pursuit or study to give sufficient exercise to their understanding.—

Mr. Malone talked of the late Mr. Windham, & said that abt. a month before His death, He [was] at Mr. Malone's House, and having the remarks of the latter, corrected His printed speech made in the House of Commons on the subject of Lord Erskine's motion respecting cruelty to animals, preparatory to a Second edition being published.—

There having appeared in the *Morning Chronicle* a long & highly wrought panegeryc upon the late Duke of Devonshire, Malone remarked upon it, that He had no doubt of it having been written by the *Duchess*, & that it was a very exaggerated character of the Duke. He was, said Malone, a man of slow apprehension, who noticed neither persons or things done or said but in such a way as to make it appear that all His ideas arose in His mind with very gradual progress.

CHAPTER IX

1811

Former Times

August 21.—Lawrence came to tea,—He spoke of the state of the King.—Colonel Taylor, His Majesty's Private Secretary, has access to Him, & says that the King is now wholly insensible to who are about Him, & cannot be brought to a sense of those who are with Him, but His mind is constantly occupied with ideas of former times & persons, and He has lately been continually talking as to the late Earl of Bute, and to the late Lord Chatham.—

In the Pillory

August 27.—I had company to dinner.—John Constable spoke of Christopher Atkinson the Corn Merchant who formerly stood in the Pillory & gave him a very bad character as being a man whose sole object in this world is gain, and for it He wd. sacrifice every principle. Since the period of his standing in the Pillory for perjury, He has had a Cause depending in one of the Courts of Law, in which Mr. Dallas who was His Council and defended Him upon the former occasion, in this held him up to public reprobation. He is however, sd. Constable, so hardened that reproach and shame have no effect upon him.—

Constable said, I am in a degree of relationship to Him [Atkinson], He having married a relation of my Father. He is a native of Yorkshire, & came up to London to get bread as He could.—He got into the House of a Corn Merchant Abraham Constable, a relation of our family, and by degrees obtained the whole business for Himself.—

August 29.—My habit has long been to rise early,—to employ myself till past 9 oClock,—then dress,—and towards 10 oClock breakfast. My days are now made days of long application.

August 30.—John Saunders, Architect, called & brought with Him the young man He spoke of who shewed me some of His drawings from Plaister, Anatomical & other figures very well done. His name is Collet. He is the Son of an Attorney at Dublin, & He is now 18 years old. He

has for some time had instructions in drawing from *Riviere*,* a student of the Academy.—I told Sanders that He appeared to me to promise to be a good artist, & that I thought [he] might have full hopes of His succeeding.†—

Engraving Unprofitable

August 31.—Pye, the Engraver, called. He spoke of His practise in engraving being very unprofitable; sd. that a plate which He had engraved for the Admiralty from a drawing by Wm. Westall had taken Him three months to execute, & He had only 60 guineas for it. In consequence of being able to make so little by engraving, He had consulted His friends abt. going into some other way of life. For the plates for the Britannia Depicta He had been paid 35 guineas each; He hoped it wd. be increased to 40 guineas.—

Offley Dying

September 2.—Mrs. J. Offley sent to me abt. 3 oClock to-day requesting me to come to Montague St. in consequence of J. Offley [wine merchant] being taken by sudden increased indisposition.—I went & found him in a very debilitated state. With the assistance of two maid servants I carried Him up stairs & put Him to bed, He being totally helpless. His pulse was above 120 in a minute.—Soon after He was thus seized He desired Mrs. Offley to write His Will which was expressed in a few words, bequeathing to His two Children & to Mrs. Offley all He should die posessed of. This Will He signed.—She put it into my hands, & I asked Him whether the signature (there were two to different parts) was His writing?—He said *Yes*, on which I wrote at the bottom this His declaration & signed my name.—

Simpson, the Apothecary, spoke of Dr. Reynolds who is confined to His room with universal Rheumatism; which in fact appears to be an expression of a constitution breaking up. He said the Doctor is a very bad patient,—Has two Physicians, but will still prescribe for Himself, & on the whole is very unmanageable & very low-spirited.—Simpson thinks the attendance upon the King at Windsor did the Doctor harm. Neither He, nor any other of the Physicians, have yet received a shilling, & they are losing their town-practise.—

* There were several artists named Rivière. The one mentioned may have been Daniel Valentine Rivière (1780-1854). Daniel, a descendant of a Huguenot family, was a gold medallist of the Royal Academy and a well-known drawing master. In 1800 he married Henrietta Thunder, and had five sons and six daughters. His eldest son, William (1806-1876), also was an artist, and father of the late Briton Rivière, R.A. Henry Parsons Rivière (1811-1888), water-colour painter, was the third son, and Miss F. Rivière, one of the sisters, contributed miniatures to the Royal Academy from 1831 to 1834. Daniel's eldest daughter, Anne, was a distinguished singer, and married Sir Henry Bishop, the eminent composer.

† Collet apparently did not succeed as an artist. There is no reference to him in any important art dictionary known to me.

Tranquillity of Mind

September 3.—Bob I went to and dined.—Mr. Markland was abt. 5 months ago appointed by Mr. Ryder, Secretary of State for the Home Department, a Police Magistrate for the district of Shadwell. The whole of this Patronage belongs to this office; but is considered by the Courts of Law as more peculiarly belonging to their body, so that for the most part these magistrates shall be appointed from such of their number as have not been able to make their way to higher distinction.—Mr. Markland said, He was born at Manchester and has now just entered His 63rd. year. He resided from His birth, during 24 years in that town. He afterwards went to Cadiz & continued there 5 years, after which He became an inhabitant of Leeds in Yorkshire where He was engaged in the manufacturing line & remained 34 years. He has had 9 children. One of His Sons aged 31, is now a Post Captain in the Navy & has a line of Battle ship in the Mediterrenean; another Son is a Captain in the West York Militia.—

I noticed Mr. Markland's strong & healthy appearance & His Chearfulness. He said He made it a rule not to allow little matters to trouble him, but to preserve a uniform tranquility of mind. He sd. He usually goes to bed abt. 11 oClock & rises abt. 8 oClock, adding that He constantly wakes abt. 4 oClock in the morning, & from that time has no disposition to sleep till 8 oClock arrives when He could again sleep but not to be refreshed by it.—

CHAPTER X

1811

The State of Commerce

September 7.—[Lestock] Wilson told me that with His House [Grove Place, near Epping] He has abt. 35 acres of land, 26 of which is Freehold. The whole, with fixtures, & some furniture, cost Him abt. £6000.—For His House in Harley St. He gave £4000, and the furniture cost Him abt. £3000, of which £1200 was in *Glass* viz: large plates, Chandelier, &c.—We dined between 5 & 6 oClock.—

The state of Commerce was a subject of conversation. Wm. Goad is partner in a House in the City.—Row, Goad & Row, Skin Brokers. He said there is much expectation of a war between France and Russia, which He considered not to be wished for, as, with the addition of *Austria*, France will overpower Russia.—

Wilson and Goad concurred in stating the present very distressed state of commerce. West India produce is a drug, scarcely producing more than pays for the freight.—Cotton was never known to be at so low a price: Coffee has fallen more than two-thirds in price. East India produce is as it may be said locked up there being no market for it.—His House (Palmer & Wilson) India Agents, do not expect to make a shilling profit this year.—It was remarked that the stocks have lately risen a little which is considered to have been [due to] the effect of expectation of the death of the King, in which case it is believed that *Overtures of Peace* would be made by Buonaparte. On my observing that no overtures He would make would cause a Peace with Him while His ambitious views are so manifest, they agreed to the truth of it, but sd. it wd. notwithstanding have the effect of raising the Funds for a time of which those now speculating would avail themselves.—

September 9.—This day being Harlowe Bush fair, 4 miles distant [from Grove Place, Epping] part of the family went to it in the morning.—

The Parson's Venture

Wilson mentioned to me the death of Captn. John Blanchard late Commander of the York East India man. He died abt. 5 years ago at

His house in New Ormond St. London. He had been subject to an Asthmatic complaint. He left a widow but no children, & to Her 6 or £700 a year.—

Captain Blanchard's Brother, the Revd. Mr. Blanchard, was appointed by the East India Directors, Chaplain at Calcutta*, and went to that place in the year 1780, in the Ship of which Wilson was then Chief mate & Miss Boileau, now Mrs. Wilson, was a passenger. At Madrass Mr. Blanchard married Wilson to Miss Boileau.—At Calcutta Mr. Blanchard remained more than 20 years in which time He accumulated a fortune of abt. £30,000. To make His expence of returning to England as little as He could He took His passage in a Dutch Ship which was in bad condition. When the ship arrived at St. Helena where there was then a fleet returning to England, it was represented to Him that it wd. be imprudent in him to venture farther in Her, and several Captains offered Him a passage for Himself and several under His care. This He declined, it was believed, from an apprehension that though nothing wd. be charged for the passage yet it wd. be proper for Him to present some compliment. Accordingly He with His party proceeded in the Dutch Ship, but when the fleet arrived off the Western Islands, Her condition was so bad, that the necessity of quitting became apparent. He was therefore with His party taken on board another Ship new & well built.

The Gale Increased

At the time of his making this change the weather was becoming bad. His servant accompanied Him, but when on board the new ship, He recollected having left His Master's watch on board the Dutch ship to which He returned to obtain it. By this time the weather was such that He was obliged to remain in the Dutch Ship. The Gale increased,—the Ships were dispersed,—and the new ship into which Mr. Blanchard had gone foundered having never after been seen or heard of. It was remarkable that the Dutch Ship kept afloat during this storm and was afterwards taken posession of by a French Ship which saved the lives of the people on board including Mr. Blanchard's servant, after which it being impossible to carry the Dutch Ship into any Port she was left to go to the bottom.—

* There is a long and discreditable story told about the Rev. T. Blanchard by William Hickey, in the third volume of his delightful *Memoirs*. Blanchard performed the funeral service at the burial of Hickey's mistress, Charlotte Barry, once a well-known "woman about town." Some time afterwards Hickey, feeling very ill, and thinking that he might die in Calcutta, wished to be deposited near to his "much-loved Charlotte." In this mind he requested an undertaker to secure a vault in the Chouringee burying-ground. The order was executed and the bill of costs (including the Rev. Mr. Blanchard's fees as chaplain) was so exorbitant that Hickey characterised the demand as "so blackguard and disgraceful in a clergyman to make, independent of its being unjust." By other extortionate practices Blanchard soon made a fortune, says Hickey, and with his sister, who was a very good woman, he returned to England.

Wilson spoke of the late Bishop Horsley, who, He sd. died insolvent. He had for sometime insured His life for £5000, but having neglected to pay the annual sum for the insurance while it might have been done it expired a few days before His death, by which the Claim to £5000 was forfeited.—He left a Son to whom He had given a living valued at £1400 a yr. but this Son was so extravagant as to cause His living to be sequestered for the benefit of His Creditors and He now resides within the privileges of Holyrood House, Edinburgh, to avoid His Creditors.—The Bishop's effects amounted to no more than wd. pay more than 9 or 10 shillings in the pound to His Creditors.

September 10.—Miss Wilson was much with me & mentioned many particulars respecting Captn. Beaufort*, whose sister married Mr. Edgworth Father of Miss Edgworth the Author, being His 4th. wife. Captain Beaufort is Son to the Revd. Dr. Beaufort, Rector of [Navan, County Meath], in Ireland, & a relation of The Right Honble. J. Forster, Chancellor of the Exchequer for Ireland.—Captn. Beaufort now commands a Frigate which carries 42 guns, and is stationed at Smyrna.

The Calcutta Gazette

Mr. Williams is Curate of Theydon [Garnon]†.—Mr. Frank Horsley, Brother to the late Bishop of St. Asaph came in for a short time being on His way to His House at Hollingberry 10 miles farther in the country. He returned from Calcutta 3 or 4 years ago, with a handsome fortune made by conducting & publishing the Calcutta Gazette.—

September 16.—Davies [East India director] talked abt. the expence of living at Calcutta. He said that He thought £3000 a year was a sum required to live handsomely & that it would go as far as the same sum wd. do in London.—House rent is very dear at Calcutta. His House cost Him £600 a yr. unfurnished. Butcher's meat, Poultry, Butter &c. are much cheaper than in London. A fine sirloin of Beef costs 7s. 6d.—Leg of mutton 2s. 6d. Many servants are required, but their wages are very low, not more than £10 a yr. Wine costs abt. as much as it does in London.—

* Rear-Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort (1774-1857), rear-admiral and hydrographer. In May 30, 1810, he was advanced to post rank in the Navy, and appointed to the *Frederiksteen* frigate. After returning to England in 1812 he won great distinction as a hydrographer, and the reward for his valuable services was a Knighthood in 1848. He was married to Alicia Magdalena Wilson, daughter of the Lestock Wilson frequently mentioned in the Diary. A portrait of him hangs in the Painted Hall, Greenwich Hospital.

Beaufort's sister Frances was married to Richard Lowell Edgeworth, author, inventor, and landlord, and she and her step-daughter became the greatest friends, although at first Miss Edgeworth was strongly opposed to the wedding.

† About a mile to the north-east of Theydon Bois, Essex.

HAPTER XI

1811

E.I.C. and Business

September 17.—At Eleven oClock I left Epping Grove with Mr. and Mrs. Davies being accommodated with a seat in their carriage.—Mr. Davies being an India Director I had some conversation with him, respecting the manner in which the Directors carry on business. He said that all business is done by *Committees.* The Secret Committee which has the care of all the political dispatches which require secret consideration, consists of three Members, viz : The Chairman ; The Deputy Chairman ; and one other Director.—The days of meeting established for the Directors are Wednesdays and Fridays ; but more particularly the former on which day a dinner is provided at the London Tavern to which the [Directors] adjourn after business is concluded. When they meet in the morning the first business is to read papers, after which Committees are formed for the purpose of doing what is necessary,—there are Committees of Shipping, of correspondence—of Warehouses &c. &c.—The appointment of Chairman is not by rotation but by Election, and a Director may pass His life witht being in that situation.—

State of Wine Trade

September 18.—C. Offley called. He told me His new House in Gloucestershire was finished,—spoke of the bad state of the Wine trade—said His House had 600 pipes of Port,—that the best Port wine now sells for £140 per pipe to the merchant and will be dearer, and that no good wine was to be got. He was to leave London the following day.—

The Young Duke

September 19.—Weather continuing fine. I proceeded in dead colouring my pictures ; the subjects of several having been carefully drawn on Canvass or board.—Lawrence dined with me. He spoke of the young Duke of Devonshire who has been sitting to Him ; and related several instances of His prudence & good disposition.—He was attached to His mother, the late Duchess & has said that had she lived till He came into posession of the Dukedom He wd. have paid Her debts. He did not

approve the marriage of His Father with Lady Elizabeth Foster, but when the marriage had taken place He conformed himself to it, yielding obedience to His Father's act. Lady Abercorn in Her open manner asked Him How He could bear it?—He said He not only bore it but had endeavoured to make it agreeable, & acknowledged that it was at His request that Lady Shaftesbury had given a grand entertainment to the Duchess.—Since His Father's death He has acted generously and prudently to the Duchess. To Her jointure of £4000 a year He has added £2000, and at the same time gave Her the choice of occupying His House at Chiswick for *12 months*, thereby signifying that in that time she should provide a situation for Herself.

His plan is understood to be to continue for 3 or 4 years in a state of wary consideration, to make himself fully acquainted with all that belongs to him, after which He will become more conspicuous, and those who know His intentions & His mind predict great excellence of conduct in Him.—He has directed that all the old Tradesmen of the family shall be employed, and the funeral of His Father having been proposed to be put into other hands He forbad it.—

Lawrence knows Mr. Foster*, Son of Lady Elizabeth Foster (now Dowager Duchess of Devonshire) & said of Him that in respect of ability He has but a Sixth rate understanding. Whilst He was Secretary in America He was pleasant to the people. On His present appointment to be the British Minister in America His personal manner became changed & is now consequential.—

The King's Ideas

Lawrence had recd. particular information respecting the state of the King. His bodily health is better, but His malady appears to be fixed. His present ideas run upon Henry the 8th and Cardinal Wolsey, & He is heard to hold supposed conversations with them respecting their political and other proceedings, and puts questions to them for reasons for their conduct. In these fancied conversations He exhibits a great memory of History & much knowledge. He speaks on these occasions, as one that was now governing the country.—One evening He was observed by His attendants to sit for a long time with His Head down as if looking to the ground. It being proper to urge Him to go to rest, He was applied & touched to call His attention. "Let me alone" sd. He, "I am looking into Hell."—

English and Scottish Audiences

Kemble, the Actor, is lately returned from Edinburgh, where He had been performing. He remarked to Lawrence the great difference which

* Sir Augustus Foster (1780-1848), second son of John Thomas Foster, M.P. for Ennis in the Irish House of Commons, by Lady Elizabeth Hervey, daughter of Frederick Augustus, Earl of Bristol and Bishop of Derry. Sir Augustus committed suicide by cutting his throat.

there is between an English & a Scotch audience. The latter, He sd. never clap till the end of a Scene, so that there is not the least interruption from such sounds, but as the clapping is reserved till this period the approbation goes without discrimination to all who have appeared in the scene. The only sign of particular approbation is seen occasionally where a few of the more select men of Edinburgh are seated together. These when they are most impressed with an Actor's power, will then turn round & looking at each other [say] Eh! but no louder expression of their approbation.—

He has had an offer of £6000 to go to America for one Season. At Covent Garden He has 12 guineas a night; Mrs. Siddons has 50 guineas a night.—Perry, Editor of the *Morning Chronicle*, told Lawrence that the rects. at Covent Garden Theatre the last Season were more than £104,000—

German and English Officers

The Duke of Cumberland has attempted to put a German Officer into His regiment (the 15th) over the head of Lord Waldgrave & others; but the whole of the Officers of the regiment having expressed a determination to resign if He persisted, He was induced to give up the point.—Baron Geramb, and other German Officers are much encouraged by the Duke & His Brothers, which is supposed to be owing to their being more obsequious than the English Officers.—

September 20.—Theed I called on in Dean St. He shewed me several of His models: Candelabriums for the Prince of Wales & other works, and described the great scale on which Rundle & Bridge (Silversmiths) carry on their works.

Robt. Smirke I dined with. He told me that He is engaged to build a new Bridge at Carlisle:—also that He has been in Scotland with the Marquiss of Queensberry (late Sir Charles Douglas) & is going to build a House for Him. Sir Charles married a daughter of the Duke of Buccleugh. The Duke being one of the legal Heirs of the late Duke of Queensberry has protested against the latter having defrauded him of £100000 by granting Leases which He was not entitled to do. The House the Marquiss is to build is to be erected at Killaugh. He is abt. 36 years old. [He was 34.]

Strong Beer

R. Smirke has lately been with the Duke of Somerset at Bulstrode the Seat of the late Duke of Portland & which He has purchased. The House was built by J. Wyatt in a wretched manner. The Duchess of Somerset spoke of the profusion in the late Duke's House. A Hogshead of strong Beer was drunk daily & the same quantity of small Beer. Five or Six dozen of wine [was drunk] daily in the Servants Hall. He told me that at Carlisle lately an old man spoke to Him of *Dick Smirke*, His Grandfather who was a House painter at Carlisle, and said He was an extraordinary ingenious man. He died when only 49 or 50 years old.

CHAPTER XII

1811

A Famous Singer

September 21.—Lysons called, having returned last night from Gloucestershire.—He told me that at the Musick meeting at Gloucester which took place abt. 10 days ago, His Brother Daniel who was one of the Stewards, preached at the Cathedral with great effect. The subscription to the Charities was more than £150 above what had been before received. —Catalani* sung & He gave a very favorable acct. of Her. He said she is very humane & extremely disposed to do acts of kindness, & is always ready to sing, when in health, for public charities. He dined with Her & Her Husband, Monsr. Valabregue, who said that He cd. prove that Catalani by Her singing for public charities in England, Scotland, & Ireland, had caused from 11 to £12,000 to be raised for such purposes.—

She complained much of the Directors of the Middlesex Hospital in London, who being disappointed by Her not singing at a time when they expected it, she being then pregnant & near Her confinement & not well, wd. not receive [the] 20 guineas which she sent or afterwards the profits of a Concert at the Pantheon which was made by Her. In consequence she divided these profits between two other Hospitals.—Her Husband speaks English tolerably,—she not so well, but what she does speak she pronounces well.—

Improper Offers

Mons. Valabregue & His wife, Madame Catalani, told Lysons that they proposed to remain in England Seven or eight years longer. She told a Lady at Gloucester that she married Monsr. Valabregue because being a single woman & professionally much exposed to improper offers she was willing to accept an honourable one & His was the first that was made to Her.—

Antiquaries and Doctors

Lysons spoke of Sir Henry Englefield's circular letter requesting support to make Him President of the Antiquary Society at the next

* Angelica Catalani (1780–1847) was married to Valabrègue, "a stupid ignorant soldier." See Index, Vols. IV. and V.

Anniversary Election ; & said it was highly [improper] thus to solicit votes on such an occasion. He had conversed with the Duke of Norfolk abt. it & Lord Spencer, Lord Radnor & Lord Aberdeen have been thought of by Lysons, as being more proper men.—

J. Offley I drank tea with. Dr. Ainslie* had attended 18 times & took a guinea every time. He spoke of Dr. Baillie & sd. He was a very good consulting Physician, but that He has too much business to allow him to pay sufficient attention in the course of His daily practice. He spoke of Dr. Reynolds† and sd. that when He died He will not leave so good a Physician behind Him.—He sd. Dr. Reynolds *has peculiar sagacity in judging from symptoms.*—He described the present melancholy state of Dr. Reynolds, who is gradually wearing out.—Can take no sustenance but of a liquid kind, but opium in large quantities. Being thus reduced in His body and suffering great pain, He is become peevish & fretful, which makes His family to look for the period of His death as a release for all. He has been a very indulgent Father, kind to His children, but in this as in other instances it is shewn that inconvenience produces discontent so as to weaken the remembrance of what we owe to those who may cause it.—Dr. Ainslie sd. that Dr. Reynolds had sunk in the opinion of many by his habit of *prosing* which of late years has grown upon Him, & caused Him to be thought Old Womanish & to lessen His practise very much.—

Ainslie sd. that little is obtained by recommendation of one Physician by another. Dr. Reynolds on going out of town recommended Him (Ainslie) to His patients, but during an absence of 6 weeks not one of them sent for Him, each chose for Her or Himself. On the Doctor's return they all again sent for Him & in the first week He took 157 guineas.—

Ainslie told Mr. Offley that He did not allow Himself to be ruffled by disappointments, that is when cases & events from them had not proved what He expected He submitted to it witht. uneasiness. In such cases, said He, Simpson, the Apothecary becomes unhappy.

September 22.—Lysons I dined with at His Chambers in the Temple.—He told me He had met Mr. Angerstein at Cheltenham & breakfasted with Him. Mr. A. informed Him that He (Mr. A.) had now quitted business after having been engaged in it 55 years, a long time said

* Dr. Henry Ainslie (1760-1834), son of a Kendal physician, was a Senior Wrangler at Pembroke Hall, Cambridge (see Vol. V.), his brother, Montague Farrer (1759-1830) being second Wrangler at the same time. Henry lived at 25, Dover-street, London, and was physician to St. Thomas's, he having previously occupied a similar position at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

His brother was a member of Trinity College, a barrister, one of the Commissioners in Bankruptcy, and a Bencher and Treasurer of Gray's Inn.

Henry's son Gilbert was eighth Wrangler, Master of Pembroke College, Cambridge, and twice Vice-Chancellor, in 1828 and 1836.

† Henry Revell Reynolds (1745-1811) was physician-in-ordinary to George III. His attendance on the King at Windsor, and other duties relating to his Majesty's illness, broke down his health and he died at his house in Bedford-square on October 22, 1811. See later entries and the Index of Vols. II., III., IV., and V.

He, I ought to have done my business in a shorter time.—At 76 He was in good health & spirits.

September 23.—J. Offley I drank tea with, He still in bed. Mrs. J. Offley told me Dr. Baillie called yesterday having come up from Windsor to consult with the *Mad Doctors* as they are called Monro &c.—upon the case of the King.—Dr. Baillie though only 4 hours in town, called & remained 20 minutes & on Mrs. Offley offering Him a fee of two guineas refused it, saying " It was quite out of the question." He read & approved Dr. Ainslie's prescriptions. Dr. Ainslie called today & took His 20th. fee having never refused one.—Though plain in His manner she remarked on the politeness & attention of Dr. Baillie compared with that of Dr. Ainslie.

Mrs. Siddons should Retire

September 26.—Lawrence spoke of Mrs. Siddons and thought it time to retire from the stage. He saw Her last night in Lady Constantine in King John, a character in some degree favorable to her person which is now become very large, but Her powers in acting are not what they were. In one passage Her voice sunk when it should have been raised to a high pitch. This He remarked to Kemble who played King John & with whom He supped that evening. Kemble replied that she had not power to express the passage properly, Her voice failed from want of strength.—

CHAPTER XIII

1811

A Holiday in Kent

September 27.—At 2 oClock I left London in the Sevenoaks Stage Coach and proceeded to that place. In the Coach I found the Revd. Willm. Peters, formerly an Artist, viz: Portrait & History Painter, and a Royal Academician, but having taken Holy Orders at the recommendation of the late Duke of Rutland who gave Him a living in Lincolnshire, He gave up His profession and His situation in the Royal Academy abt. the year 1793 or 4.—He now appeared to me to have marks of age & infirmity, seeming to be Asthmatick, but decay may be expected at 70 years or upwards.—

At Sevenoaks I found Mr. Wm. Wells's* carriage waiting for me & in it I proceeded to Red Leaf, Mr. Wm. Wells' residence, 7 miles distant from Sevenoaks and from Tunbridge, where I arrived at 9 oClock.—

September 28.—The situation of the House beautiful.—I passed the morning in drawing & walking with Mrs. Wells &c.—abt. the grounds,—and made many observations on the colour & effect of the landscape & compared them with the beautiful collection of pictures possessed by Wm. Wells.—The truth & beauty of Claude's colouring was manifestly superior to that of all the other masters, & next to Him Cuyp, De Vleiger, & Vandevelde in this collection were to be reckoned for these excellencies. The pictures of Ruysdael & other Dutch & Flemish Masters were upon too low a scale & wanted clearness of atmosphere & air.—

Sir John Carr's French

September 29.—At breakfast Sir John Carr & His publications were spoken of. Captn. D'aeth† who lately returned from the Mediterrenean, where He served under Sir Charles Cotton, saw Sir John in Sicily, & said He went there witht. understanding anything of Italian or the

* Ship builder and picture collector.

† Probably Admiral G. W. H. D'Aeth, who married in 1816 Harriet, third daughter of Sir Edward Knatchbull, eighth Baronet.

Sicilian languages & speaking very bad French, and that thus unprepared He undertook to collect matter to form a book.—

September 30.—Captn. D'aeth is Son to Mrs. Hughes of Sevenoaks & Half Brother to Mrs. Wells. Mrs. Hughes was related to the late Sir Narborough D'aeth Bart. of Kent, who left an estate of abt. £2000 a yr. with some incumbrances upon it, to the Son of Mrs. Hughes directing that He shd. take the name of D'aeth which He has thus done.—

A Celebrated Collection

October 4.—Wm. Wells shewed me a list of the pictures in His Collection with the prices He gave for them & an estimate of what He thought they might sell for.—This paper was dated Novr. 2nd. 1810.—

Total amount of money paid by Him for the purchase of the pictures.—	£18714.15.0
Total amount of His estimate of what they might hereafter sell for.—	£14715. 0.0
Supposed loss by having bought the pictures at too high a price.—	£3999.15.0

He told me He had provided by His Will that this Collection should be preserved together at least for a generation or two by making the whole an *Heirloom*.*—

The Collection consists of Eighty four pictures.—To these are to be added Seven pictures, Sea pieces, by Brooking, and several pictures by Morland; Five drawings by Girtin;—two by Pocock,—Three of Horses by Seymour.—Also a small picture by Vandevelde, a Ship on fire.—

	Paid— Prices of some of the pictures. £	Of future Sale His estimate. £	[£]
1. Domenichino,—St. Cecilia, from Mr. Udney's Collection.	1300.	900.	[609]
2. Murillio.—St. Thomas delivering Charity.	1260.	1000.	[2992 10]
3. Inchanted Castle, Claude,—formerly belonging to Mr. Troward, Solicitor.	1000.	900.	[2100]
4. Van Huysum—Flowers	735.	500.	[420]
5. Guido—a Sybil—a ¾ with an arm & hand.	630.	400.	[357]

* There were at least five sales of the Wells Collection, the first in 1848, the second in 1852, third, 1862, the fourth in 1877, and the fifth in 1890. The figures in brackets give the prices realised for a few of the pictures.

The Murillo was bought by Lord Hertford, and is now in the Wallace Collection.

	Paid— Prices of some of the pictures. £	Of future Sale His estimate. £	[£]
6. Cuyp,—Cows in Water with a rising sun.	420.	300.	[409 10]
7. Vandyke—Charles 1st.—3 views of His face in one picture (Sold to George IV. for £1000).	429.	350.	[500]
8. Wovermans—Horses & Tent.	630.	500.	
9. Gerard Dow—Woman in a Green Dress.	420.	420.	[357]
10. Claude — Landscape with small Goats.	210.	210.	[315]
11. Wovermans—Grey Horse—formerly belonging to Sir Joshua Reynolds	31.10.	100.	
12. Willm. Vandevelde.—view of Scheveningen.	78. 5.	250.	[525]
13. do. Dutch Scoot & Ship.	262.10.	200.	
14. do. A Pier & Dutch Scoot.	105. 0.	75.	
15. do. A Storm & Sea Shore.	262.10.	150.	
16. do. Calm, its companion.	167.10.	100.	
17. Ruysdael—A Cornfield.	105.	75.	
18. do.—distant view of Haarlem, formerly belonged to Sr. Geo. Yonge.	136.10.	100.	
19. Berchem—2 men—2 women—2 Cows.	210.	210.	[225 15]
do. do. do. Goats.	315.	250.	[357]
20. Teniers—2 small landscapes.	210.	150.	
do. Card Players.	420.	420.	
do. After Vandyke.	75.	50.	
21. Hobbima.—A Forest scene.	190.	290.	[262 10]
ditto—Companion.	210.	250.	
22. Both.—Landscape.	315.	250.	[288]
23. Pynaker.—do. with Bridge.	367.10.0.	200.	
24. Sir Joshua—a Head.	84. 0.0.	80.	
25. P. Veronese. — Marriage of the Virgin.	315.	200.	[560]
26. F. Mieris,—His own portrait.	265.10.0.	200.	[493 10]
27. Rubens.—A Sketch.	210. 0.0.	150.	[53 11]
28. Albano.—Holy family.—	367.10.0.	200.	

CHAPTER XIV

1811

Penshurst House

October 4.—In the afternoon I walked with W. Wells to Penshurst House, one mile distant, a walk through the Park. This ancient Seat exhibits much both in form and furniture of that which existed in the days of Queen Elizabeth. There are many pictures, a wretched show, most of which have been placed there at a later period.—On leaving the place I remarked to Willm. Wells how much better the comforts of living are understood in these times than in the earlier periods. Even in this mansion it appears to have been felt. The later occupiers of it shunned the large gloomy apartments of their ancestors, & passed their Hours in lighter & more compact rooms modernised to the period of their residence.—

There is now no male branch of the family of Sydney. The last female in the direct line married a Mr. Perry who died upwards of 50 years ago. By this marriage there was a Son & several daughters. The Son died when 21 or 2 years old; the eldest daughter married Sir Bysshe Shelley,* & with Her He obtained Penshurst. His Son has assumed the name of Sydney.—

The King and the Academy

October 6.—The Hours kept by the family are:

Breakfast at ½ past	9.
Dine at	5.
Tea at	8.
Mrs. Wells retires at ½ past	10.
W. Wells &c. at	11.

* Sir Bysshe Shelley was the poet Shelley's grandfather. Early in life he returned from America, whither his father had migrated. He made two runaway marriages, the first of which was with Mary Catherine, daughter of the Rev. Theobald Michell, of Horsham. The poet's father, Timothy, was one child of this marriage. Bysshe's second wife was Elizabeth Jane Sydney, only daughter and heiress of William Perry, of Wormington, in Gloucestershire, and Penshurst, Kent. Their eldest son, John Shelley Sydney, was created a Baronet, and his son, Sir Philip Charles, first Baron de L'Isle and Dudley, of Penshurst, in 1835.

Sir Bysshe, who was made a Baronet in 1806 for his support of the Whigs, is described as handsome, dignified in appearance and manner, enterprising, not over-scrupulous, and addicted to inferior company.

Penshurst Church I went to with Mr. & Mrs. Wells, and recd. the Holy Sacrament.—In the afternoon we walked before dinner.—Lawrence I recd. a letter from informing me that Mr. West had been with Mr. Perceval, the minister, to speak abt. the situation of the Academy. On Mr. Perceval being informed that the Academy were not a Corporate Body but dependant upon the King's pleasure, He approved the most cautious proceeding at present, On Mr. West saying " that by the Academys waiting till the full government of the country was placed in the Regent's hands He hoped they secured themselves from any chance of His Majesty's displeasure should He again recover," Mr. P. said " If it did not, it wd. be sufficient proof that He had *not* recovered."

A Great Fortune

Wm. Wells spoke of Sir Robert Wigram* Bart. who by His activity in business has raised himself from a low situation to His present rank and a great fortune. He sd. Sir Robert speaking of Himself said, " That He should be miserable if in a morning He should not awake with His head full of Ideas of business for the day, and that before He arises He forms His plan of proceeding throughout the day." As He is now advanced in years, being towards 70, He every day at 2 oClock puts on His night cap and lays down for an Hour, after which He eats a mutton chop and dines between 6 & 7 oClock. So much is his mind occupied in schemes for accumulation of property, & such the habit of it, that in conversation with Wm. Wells He has appeared to consider the latter strangely when He has expressed himself contented with that which He posessed & disinclined to further accumulation.—In the night time Sir Robert has a light in His room with Pen, Ink & Paper, & when any thought rises in His mind which He wishes to retain He immediately commits it to paper.

A Man of Narrow Mind

October 8.—Mr. Alnut's† we dined at,—5 oClock.—The late Mr. Woodgate of Summer Hill near Tunbridge was a man of a most narrow mind whose sole consideration seemed to be to accumulate property. He died abt. 2 years ago, and left to His eldest Son an estate of 5 or £6000 a year with timber upon which has been valued at £120000.—It is full grown, & He may cut annually to the amount of £4000 witht. it affecting the appearance of His quantity.—To His Second Son, John Woodgate, (one of our party today) He left an estate of abt. £1400 a year with timber of considerable value. Mrs. Alnut & Miss Woodgate, (also one of our party) were His daughters, but He professed to think Women

* Merchant and shipowner, M.P. for Wexford and Fowey; he was created a Baronet in 1805. See Index, Vol. V.

† Richard Allnutt, wine merchant. See Vol. VI. and note.

incumbrances only upon an estate, and natural [affections] operated upon Him so little that with all His wealth He left to Mrs. Alnut not more than £5000 & to Miss Woodgate, an excellent woman who lived with Him till His death and added to His comfort as much as He was capable of feeling it, He left still less than that Sum.

The prospect of death was long before Him for He died of a decline at between 60 & 70 years of age, and through the progress of His decay the unremitting attention of His daughters caused some expectation that He would shew some sense of their dutiful behaviour & their services, but He quitted the world without expressing in His Will any sense of them.—Mr. John Woodgate acted under His Father as a kind of Bailiff upon His estate, superintending the business of it, going to market &c.—

Sussex Oak

October 9.—We talked of Ship building. Wm. Wells told me that Oak which grows in Southern Climates is preferable to that which grows in the Northern Climates,—in so much so, that the Oak of Sussex is preferable to that of Yorkshire. The German Oak, that which is brought from Dantzick &c. is much inferior to the oak of the South of France. The Dantzick and other Northern oak grows well, being large and of fine form but its quality is inferior, yet it answers very well for the purpose of planking the bottoms of Ships, those parts which are always in water, it being there preserved from *air.* Oak buried in the earth is preserved better than that exposed to air, and in Clay soil better than in Sandy Soil as the latter in dry weather becomes more porous & admits air.—

Our Eastern Trade

The late Sir Francis Baring being mentioned W. Wells said that Sir Francis was the person who suggested to Mr. William Pitt the policy of establishing the Commutation Act whereby the price of teas was greatly reduced & the China trade confined to this country. Previous to this Act the duties on teas were so high as to induce Dutch, Swedish & Danish Merchants to send ships to China chiefly for the purpose of purchasing teas which when brought to Holland, Sweden, or Denmark were mostly smuggled into England, it being then worth the risk of capture from the gain arising when successful in the attempt.—The Commutation Act put an end to this trade.—

On another account Sir Francis fell under an Odium. Being a Director of the East India Company He knew that the Directors meaning to benefit the Company forbad the exportation to China of a particular kind of cloth except for & in the name of the Company. This prevented the Captains and Officers of Ships from making it an article of their trade. Sir Francis was acquainted with the quantity ordered to be

exported for the Company, and communicated it to Mr. Bingham an American merchant with whom He had connexions, & Cloth of this kind being purchased in England was sent to China in American Ships, which brought a large profit & in a degree defeated the expectations of the India Directors.—Two Sons of Sir Francis married daughters of Mr. Bingham and each had a fortune of £100,000.—

CHAPTER XV

1811

Shipbuilders

October 10.—It being Mr. Wests birth day (the President) He having completed His 73rd. year, I proposed to drink His Health which was chearfully done.

W. Wells told me that He and His Brother sold their estates (Ship yards) at Blackwall & at Redriff for £140,000: Their stock upon these estates amounted to 80 or £90,000.—He said at the period of their disposing of this property much money was to have been got by their business of Shipbuilding & that Had they continued in it they must have made great fortunes; but each thinking He had sufficient for the comforts of life thought it most wise & proper to retire from it.—Mrs. Puget, widow of Mrs. J. Wells's Brother, being of a religious disposition had by Her conversation much effect upon J. Wells's mind, & He thought it not consistent with religious sentiments to continue to devote His mind to the accumulation of wealth.—

Sir Philip Francis

October 11.—Sir Philip Francis was in India (Bengal) in the time of Mr. Warren Hastings being Governor there, Sir Philip being sent out with General Clavering by the English Government for some political purposes.—He there opposed Mr. Hastings & personally in such a manner as to cause a Duel between them in which Sir Philip was wounded.—When Mr. Hastings was tried before the House of Lords Sir Philip was made one of the Managers against him and exhibited an inveteracy of hatred such as to disgust those who think liberally. A few years ago He was made a Knight of the Bath. I now judged Him to be 68 or towards 70 years old, but well-looking for His age*. I observed He drank a few glasses of wine, perhaps 3 or 4, but seemed to be one who takes great care of Himself.—There was no conversation of an interesting kind. A little was said abt. the exportation of our Coin & the ill effects of it. Mr. Blake, who is a manager of the Royal Institution, has published a pamphlet on the subject & now spoke of the causes & probable effect of

* He was 71 years old, and died in 1818.

it. Sir Philip expressed himself against the exportation, but said the arguments which He heard on the subject He never could understand "they were to him *gibberish*."

Mrs. Dixon's Ball

This evening Mrs. Dixon [wife of Mr. Dixon, Oporto wine merchant] gave a *Ball* and company began to come in towards 9 oClock. The following were of the number, viz: Old Dowager Lady Monson, grandmother to the last Lord.—Lady Catherine Howard, & Lady Mary Shepherd, married to a Son of Serjeant Shepherd, daughters of Lord Rosebery.—Miss Barwell, daughter of the late Richd. Barwell of Bengal; Sir Francis and Lady Drake.—Mr. William Lushington Senr. Brother of the late Sir Stephen Lushington [chairman of the East India direction in 1790]. Mr. W. Lushington was long in the East Indies [?and made a fortune], which he afterwards lessened by engaging in West India concerns. He seemed to be 64 or 5 years old.—Miss Lushington, His daughter.—Lady Errol, widow of Lord Errol, who being in the Guards at the time of the expedition to the Helder committed some improper act with respect to dispatches intrusted to him, which caused him to shoot Himself.*—Lady Errol was so much affected that she lost for a time the use of Her limbs. She has been extremely handsome & now is much so, but she injures Her face by a bad habit of taking snuff.—Having but a small provission she resides in Hampton Court Palace.—Sir Charles Coote & His Brother [Sir Charles had four brothers], two young men.—

October 12.—Wm. Wells shewed me the Map of His estate the whole of which cost Him abt. £50,000 but would now sell for more.—The farms are much under-let,—but the Farmers & people of this country are remarkably civil, and it is agreable to live among them.—

Ships and Seamen

October 13.—Zimminick, a German Flower painter, and 2 other persons with Him came from Tunbridge Wells to see the pictures.—I had some conversation with W. Wells respecting the state of this country with respect to Buonaparte.—W. Wells said Buonaparte had the utmost means for building any number of Ships but these were nothing witht. Seamen.—The way to make Seamen wd. be for Buonaparte to send from Brest or any other port a fleet of men of war to cruise in the South Seas, where unmolested they would obtain the experience of Seamen & in 9 months would be able to acquire sufficient knowledge to make them fit

* In his *Autobiographical Sketches* De Quincey says that the Earl "had been privately intrusted by Mr. Pitt with an official secret. . . . In a moment of intoxication the Earl confided it to some false friend, who published the communication and its author. Upon this the unhappy nobleman, under too keen a sense of wounded honour, and with perhaps an exaggerated notion of the evils attached to his indiscretion, destroyed himself."

SIR PHILIP FRANCIS, SUPPOSED AUTHOR OF "LETTERS OF JUNIUS"

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to man ships for war,—and by thus proceeding Buonaparte might possibly in ten years over-match us.—He said though we may not be able to obtain a supply of timber from the Continent we have sufficient in this country to keep up our Navy if driven to necessity, as in Parks & Grounds there is abundance of the finest timber.—

Cultivation of Hops

October 14.—W. Wells told me that Major Woodgate inherits from His Father Summer Hill, near Tunbridge and 5000 acres of land, the whole of which He Himself *farms*. The Major spoke of His growth of Hops this year.—These Hops were grown upon 65 acres of land. The expence of attending the cultivating of Hops is very great. Many years ago it was reckoned at £40 an acre and now at £50 an acre. Thus the Major's profit this year wd. be abt. £3000. It has been a remarkably good year. The growth of Hops is always considered to be a Lottery as to its success.—

The British Navy

October 15.—J. Wells said that Buonaparte has such means of building Ships as will enable Him in a course of years to outnumber our Navy & finally to annihilate the Navy of Great Britain.—When I spoke of our being able to keep pace with Him, He said "The system on which our government proceeds in all that relates to Ship-building &c. is so bad, [and] is carried on by men so ignorant of what is proper to do, that there is no hope of this country doing its utmost while it is observed."—He spoke also of the depopulation of the country with respect to *Men* & of the difficulty of keeping up our army.—

A Jovial Baronet

J. Wells spoke of Sir Wm. Curtis.* His Father was a working Biscuit Baker. He was brought up in the Presbyterian line, & retains certain impressions of religion, which in the midst of His jovial proceedings occasionally makes Him for a short time serious. He met J. Wells in the street & pressed Him to go to a party to dinner. He talked of His way of

* Sir William Curtis, M.P., Lord Mayor and founder of the banking house of Robarts, Lubbock, and Co., had a great love for pictures. This fever may have been the illness referred to in the following note by C. R. Leslie in his memories of Constable: "Constable told me of Sir William Curtis, that during an illness he had a fine picture by Gainsborough hung in his chamber that he might see it through the opening in his bed curtains."

Sir William was a patron of Constable, who wrote of him thus: "We dined with Sir William Curtis; he is a fine old fellow, and is now sitting for his portrait to Lawrence for the King [George IV.], who desired it in these words: 'D——n you, my old boy, I'll have you in all your canonicals, and then I can look at you every day.' He is a great favourite—birds of a feather." This portrait, which was exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1824, is in the private apartments at Windsor Castle, and was engraved by William Say in 1830. See Vols. II., IV., and V. of the Diary. Sir Thomas painted other portraits of Curtis, one of them about 1812, in which year it was shown at the Academy.

life and expressed a desire to alter it; and during this conversation shed tears; but He afterwards went to the meeting where, as usual, He took His wine very freely. J. Wells called upon Him at a time when He was confined to His bed with fever. A quaker Physician was with Him who finding His pulse at upwards of 100 in a minute admonished Him upon the necessity of becoming abstemious & told Him He must live upon water gruel, to which He consented. The Doctor then recommended to Him to abstain from drinking Champagne in future. This roused Sir William & He replied, "Not so, Doctor, I shall drink Champagne whenever I can get it."—

October 16.—[The Rev. Thomas] Hughes said He had been informed by a person who had inspected the quantity of wood now growing in Nottinghamshire and that there was sufficient to build 50 ships of the line.—

CHAPTER XVI

1811

Notable People in Kent

Wellington's Plans

Mr. Dixon said that He had been well informed that when Lord Wellington first had the command in Portugal & Spain He communicated His plans to the principal officers, but He found that in a very short time they were known to the enemy. This caused His Lordship to confine His plans to His own mind, & He does not allow anyone to know His intentions farther than He may conjecture from the part each individual has to act.—

October 18.—At breakfast we had conversation respecting the keeping of Horses & Carriages & the difference of expence attending it in London or in the country.

Mr. Hughes stated His expence as follows, viz: In the Country.

Annual average expence of a Carriage.	£50.
Two Horses at £35. each.	70.
Coachman.	63.
Various expences including Harness wear & tear of Horses — Taxes on Horses — Carriage & Coachman &c.	30.
	£213.
Annual known expence of a Carriage in London.	£350.
	£213.
Difference.	£137.

A Sensible Man

Lord Frederick Campbell,* brother to the late Duke of Argyll, came at noon and staid till the even'g.—He is 82 years of age, but excepting much deafness seemed to have nothing to complain of but the natural

* Gainsborough painted two portraits of Lord Frederick which are not recorded by Sir Walter Armstrong. One, a full length, seated, is at Inveraray Castle, and is reproduced in Constance, Lady Russell's delightful book, *Three Generations of Fascinating Women*. The other, a fine half-length, was found by the writer at Stoke Park (Lord Gwydyr's) about fourteen years ago, labelled as by

effects of Old age. He resides at Coombe bank near Sevenoaks, and abt. 12 miles from Red Leaf.

I remarked that Lord Frederick at table did not forbear from high dishes. He ate soup,—stewed Carp—Roast Pork, rich pye,—and at dinner drank three glasses of Madeira. After dinner He ate grapes, and drank abt. 2 glasses of Madeira.—

Lord Frederick was the second son of General Campbell, who when old succeeded His Cousin in the Dukedom of Argyll. He had His education at an English school, and was at Oxford, and choosing the law for a Profession became a Barrister. In this capacity He attended at the trial of Lord Ferrers for murder abt. the year 1761 and there saw Lady Ferrers who was brought up to give evidence upon some points. His Lordship was then so much struck with Her appearance & manner that He afterwards married Her & they lived together till a few years ago when she was unhappily burnt to death [in 1807] owing to Her cloaths having caught fire.—These particulars Wm. Wells had learnt.—

Lord Frederick has abt. £5000 a year. The estate at Coombe bank near Sevenoaks, was left to Him by His Father, General Campbell, who succeeded to the Dukedom. He mentioned that His Father having this estate held also *upon Lease* an estate adjoining upon which He planted trees nearly over the whole of it. Being some time after desirous to purchase this estate He applied to the owner & found Him disposed to sell it, but on their speaking of the terms upon which the purchase should be made the Owner apprized Him that He should value [it] according to its value as having *trees upon it*, and that the price wd. be considerably more than it wd. otherways be. The Duke startled at this & postponed the conversation, and without delay rode to a neighbour, a gentleman who was at that time *Master of the Rolls* and of course competent to [answer] legal questions. Upon the Duke stating His situation with the owner of the estate, His friend paused for a while, and then said " I have it, put up a board in the front of the Plantation offering for sale young trees for planting, this you may do, & the owner of the land will no longer have an advantage such as He now claims."—The Duke accordingly did as advised, and during several years the board was continued up & young planting trees were sold. At length the Duke obtained the estate upon proper terms.—

Lord Frederick is reckoned to be a sensible man. He was long in Parliament in which He never spoke but twice, but those speeches raised His credit as they were made with considerable ability.—His understanding and agreeable manners have made Him much in request in Society. He has had many fancies in building, furnishing, &c. which have been

"Allan Ram, the Scottish Vandyke." A version of this portrait, apparently a copy made, perhaps, say by Gainsborough Dupont for his mezzotint engraving, was shown at the Grosvenor Gallery in 1885.

Lord Frederick (1729-1816) was Lord Clerk Register of Scotland. In 1774 he laid the foundation of the Register House in Princes-street, Edinburgh. He was also M.P. for the Glasgow burghs and afterwards for Argyllshire. See later entries.

expensive, and has always been in consequence of these indulgencies somewhat distressed, at least has had no superfluity.—

Byron's Schoolmate

October 19.—The young Duke of Dorset was spoken of as being a promising young man.* He is in His 19th. year, was educated at Harrow, but had a private Tutor there of whom Mr. Hughes spoke very highly.—Abt. 12 months ago the Duke was struck on the eye by a Tennis Ball & was so much hurt as to be forbid reading &c. for nearly the whole time since. When He comes of age He will have abt. £16000 a year with the Duchesses jointure upon it;—very little of this estate is in Kent, He having in this county not more than £400 a year exclusive of Knowle Park. The Duchess, His mother, has no children by Lord Whitworth.—

In Kent there is no great controulling property, that posessed by Sir Horace Mann wd. have been the largest but by His extravagance He has reduced His income to not more than £4000 a yr. In Parliamentary Contests for this County the government interest, the *Church* (Canterbury) and the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, posess the chief influence.—

The Deanery of Canterbury is [worth] about £2000 a year. Dr. Andrews, the present Dean, resides there but little. He is very much respected. His daughter, an only child, is to be married to a Son of Mr. Baker one of the Members for Canterbury.—

A Violent Judge

Lord Ellenborough resides in the Summer at Waldershare abt. 11 miles [south-east of] Canterbury for which He pays annual rent £200 to Lord Guilford to whom it belongs. It is a very good House. For His house in St. James's Square, London, He pays annual rent £1200; it belongs to Lord Anson. During His residence at Waldershare He associates with His neighbours & likes their society,—talks of Agriculture &c. & is sociable. Lady Ellenborough is a fine woman & much liked, He is sd. to be, not with the least cause for it, very jealous of Her, & His temper is very controuling.—

When He went, as Judge, to the Assizes at Maidstone last Summer, He was much offended at the disrespect shewn Him by there not being proper attendance when He approached the town, & He lectured severely some of those who attended Him upon the occasion. To one who stood before Him awed by the violence of His manner He, mistaking the man's feelings, said "You hear what I say to you with *petrified* insensibility." The Chief Baron, Macdonald, was the other Judge, but He smiled at the whole of it.—

* George John Frederick (Sackville), Duke of Dorset (1793-1815), was killed by a fall from his horse in 1815 while hunting at Lord Powerscourt's in Ireland.

Lord Byron, who was one of his schoolfellows at Harrow, commemorated his regard for him in a set of verses beginning "Dorset, whose early steps with mine have strayed."

CHAPTER XVII

1811

A Holiday in Kent

October 20.—Dr. Powis, the late Dean of Canterbury told Mr. Hughes that the Archbishoprick of Canterbury is now £27,000 a year.—Three of the Prebendal Stalls, £1000 a year each, are in the gift of the Archbishop.—He is required to visit Canterbury once in four years (three years was the period expressed) to *confirm &c.* When He makes these visits He resides with the Dean.—

We went to Tunbridge Church in the morn'g & after divine service stopped a little [time] at the Rector's. He was, when young, in the Marine Service, but took orders, and His Uncle being Steward to the Sidney family, He was inducted to the living of Penshurst to hold it for a young man one of the Sidney family, who when He came to an age to do it refused to take Holy Orders, in consequence of which he was continued in the living. It is valued at £1000 a year, & he has had it 10 years. He has 9 children.

A Shy Man

Mr. Hughes spoke of Mr. Garrow, the Council who resides much at a House He has abt. 2 miles from Ramsgate. He has several children, some of them married, & is very generous to them, giving them money freely. He was till of late considered to be a very shy man particularly in the company of Ladies, but of late He has been otherwise and is pleasant with them. Two or three years ago His wife died, it was a connexion He formed somewhat irregularly, and that was supposed to have made Him shy of female intercourse. Since Her death He has no longer any difficulty of this kind.

Time for Reflection

Lord Thanet was spoken of.* He has a large estate in Kent & a fine House upon it. He is 42 years old, & lately married a Lady who had lived

* Sackville Tufton, ninth Earl of Thanet (1767-1825), was born at Hothfield House, Kent. While in Vienna in early life he formed an alliance with a Hungarian lady, Anne Charlotte de Bojanowitz. In William Windham's Diary, page 237, there is a letter from the statesman to Mrs. Crewe, dated Paris, September 15, 1791, in which he says that Thanet arrived there "with a Hungarian lady, whom as a brilliant achievement he carried off from her husband at Vienna, and who,

with him, a person of good education. Since His confinement in the Tower of London for a riot in the Judges Court at Canterbury to which He was led by political party feelings, He has disclaimed all interference with politics, & considers His confinement in the Tower as having been attended with salutary advantages to Him. During His confinement He had full time for reflection: He inspected the state of His affairs,—broke off intercourse with many persons who were improper associates for Him, and in various ways settled and improved His mind.—

Mr. Hughes spoke of His Father in law, Sir Edward Knatchbull M.P. as being singularly active, in making journies, or doing expeditiously whatever He undertakes.—He is now between 50 & 60 years of age, was married at the age of 21, and has now His *third* wife.

W. Wells told me that Sir Edward Knatchbull's first wife was a relation of Sir Joseph Banks, at whose death Mr. Knatchbull, eldest son of Sir Edward, will inherit £40,000.—Sir Joseph offered to lay out this money in the purchase of land if any should be upon sale that is contiguous to [Mersham Hatch] in Kent, the seat of Sir Edward, and a purchase to the amount of £17000 has been thus made. Sir Joseph will receive the rent during His life.—Sir Edward had only one child by His first wife (the present Mr. Knatchbull) who is 28 years old, & is married to a sister of Sir John Honeywood. He is not upon good terms with His father owing to a difference respecting a provision for Him & settlements for Sir Edward's younger children.

When Copley began His large picture of Sir Edward & His family the second Lady Knatchbull was living and Her portrait was introduced, and that of His first wife, who was represented in an angelick character in the Clouds. His third wife's portrait he had introduced in the place of that of the Second wife, & had that of the first wife, obliterated.—His wife had a fortune of £20,000.

Secret of a Cricket Ball

October 21.—I passed the morning in study,—drawing and walking to make observations on the landscape of the country.—The weather has

as well as himself, is now suffering for their sins, by the most complete weariness (as I should suppose) of one another."

Though not prominently active in politics, Lord Thanet supported the Whigs, and was present with Fox, Sheridan, Erskine, and others at the trial of Arthur O'Connor at Maidstone for treason. A verdict of not guilty was given, but O'Connor was detained, pending a warrant for his arrest for another offence.

Lord Thanet, who joined in an attempt to rescue him, was charged with helping to cause a riot in the Court. At the trial at the King's Bench on April 25, 1799, in which Lord Kenyon, Sir John Scott, Sheridan, and Edward Law (afterwards Lord Ellenborough) took part, Lord Thanet was ultimately sentenced to a year's imprisonment in the Tower and to pay a fine of £1,000. Moreover, on his release he had to find sureties of £20,000 for seven years' good behaviour. As he had no legitimate children he was succeeded in turn by his brothers Charles (1770-1832) and Henry Tufton (1775-1849), the last Earl. Richard Tufton, who was naturalised in 1849, succeeded to the Thanet estates and was created a Baronet in 1851, and his eldest son, Henry James, second Baronet, was raised to the Peerage as Baron Hothfield in 1881.

been hitherto so favorable that we have not had fires till the evening.—I called upon — Duke,* a person who resides near Red Leaf and is remarkable for making Cricket Balls of the best quality. He has only one Competitor in England for the reputation of making the best Balls. He told me that His family had been famous for this art for 250 years past. The great secret of it is to wind the thread round an *octagon* piece of cork which forms the kernel of the Ball. This art He does not disclose but to His own family & had now a Son, a lad, working with Him. When the Ball is perfectly formed with Cork and thread, He delivers to men who work in a room adjoining and they put on the Leather cover which is made of *Bull Hide.* The weight of a Ball according to the rules of the game is not to be less than 5 ounces and a Half, or more than 5 ounces and Three quarters.—The Price of a Ball of the best kind is Seven Shillings.—He shewed me the rules of the game. The wickets are to be pitched at the distance of 22 yards; a long list of rules follows.—

Knowle

October 22.—Today I went with W. Wells, to Knowle near Sevenoaks, the mansion of the Duke of Dorset, and saw the House & the pictures on the whole a very indifferent collection, but there are some pictures of Vandyke, and the "Count Ugolino" & the "Fortune teller" by Sir Joshua Reynolds two of His finest works.—The Gallery of Poets containing portraits of most of our celebrated Authors, & others is interesting.—Apartments fitted up for the reception of James 1st. and James 2nd. remain as they were at the period of their being fitted up & are curious exhibitions of the taste of those times.

Dr. John Mayo

October 25.—W. Wells told me that His Physician, Dr. Mayo,† had mentioned to Him that a General Officer who had long served in

* Mr. Ernest Ward, the well-known writer on cricket, says:

"The reference to the manufacture of cricket balls is extremely interesting. Mr. Harry Duke, the descendant of the Duke who invented the cricket ball, continues with the firm of 'Duke and Son,' and has the secret that has been so jealously handed down from father to son. While the style and shape of the original cricket bat has changed, the ball played with to-day is in weight and size precisely as it was constructed by Duke 200 years or more ago. Cricket ball manufacture is one of the closest industries in the Kingdom. It is concentrated in the Tonbridge country, mainly at Quarry Hill. The shops at the factories are so carefully guarded for the preservation of the secret that not even apprentices are allowed in the workroom to see the final assembly of the parts. Duke has a working arrangement with 'John Wisden,' the famous Cranbourne-street firm, founded by the old cricketer and developed by the late Harry Luff. Virtually Duke *cum* Wisden has something approaching a monopoly of the output of the classic cricket ball. The seven shillings cost of a ball in Farington's time was relatively higher than the seven shillings or so of our pre-War price. But since the War labour and material have sent up the cost for retailers to the thirteen shillings now charged by 'Wisden.' The workers in the ball factories are a fine race of men. All did their bit in the War. Most of them, as a species of holiday, are the 'gate' men on the Kent county grounds. It was a system established by the late Tom Pawley, who was above all else a Tonbridge man. Meantime the main secret in cricket ball manufacture is splendidly kept by Duke and Wisden."

† John Mayo (1761-1818), Physician to the Foundling Hospital and to the Middlesex Hospital, and Physician-in-Ordinary to the Princess of Wales. For many years Mayo, during the summer

India returned from there with an impaired constitution, but had a settled prejudice against Medicine.—The General was recommended to go to Malvern Wells where He was accustomed to take morning rides; in one of which He noticed a respectable-looking man who had remarkably a look of high health. The General told the Physician that this induced Him to request to know by what mode of life He preserved His constitution in so good a state. The other freely replied "That it was his habit to take a *Calomel Pill every other day*, which He had so done for thirty years. This, added He, carries away any accumulation which might be detrimental to my constitution, and keeps me clear of inconvenience & to this I owe the comfort I have & the appearance of health which you have remarked."—From this time the General ceased to have any prejudice against medicine, and, sd. the Physician to W. Wells, "it shews you that nothing is to be apprehended from a continued use of such a medicine as suits the constitution."

October 27.—W. Wells told me that the Father of Mr. Beeston Long was Mr. Beeston Long, a West India merchant of great respectability. He died abt. 15 years ago. He had several children, viz.: Samuel Long, who succeeded Him as Head of the Mercantile House. He married Lady Jane Maitland, Sister to the present Lord Lauderdale, & died sometime since leaving several children. She is since married to Colonel Ouston. [Houstoun, afterwards General Sir William Houstoun, G.C.B., first Baronet.]

2nd. Son, Beeston Long, a merchant of great respectability, who was partner with His Brother Saml. Long, and is now the Head of the mercantile House, which W. Wells thinks the most respectable House in the City, having always borne a high character. He married a daughter of the present Sir Richard Neave Bart. Uncle to W. Wells; his mother was Sister to Sir Richard, and had a fortune of £40,000 from her Uncle, Mr. Freeman, who was a merchant in the City of London. He left to His nephew, Sir Richard £100,000. Sir Richard is now upwards of 80 and paralytic.—

3rd. Son, The Right Honble. Charles Long, now joint paymaster of the forces [and afterwards Lord Farnborough], to whom His Father left £20,000. He was educated at Greenwich school, & from thence went to Cambridge. He was afterwards entered at Lincolns Inn being intended for the Law, and Mr. Pitt, whom he became acquainted with at Cambridge was then also at Lincolns Inn.—After Mr. Pitt became Minister He took C. Long under His protection, made Him joint Secretary of the Treasury, and eventually a Privy Councillor, and on Mr. Pitt, going out

months, resided at Tunbridge Wells and there enjoyed "the undisputed lead in medical business and emoluments." On retiring from his official appointments in 1817, he went to live at Tunbridge Wells, where he died on November 29 of the following year, and was buried at Speldhurst, Kent. His eldest son, Thomas, was President of the Royal College of Physicians, and the third son, Herbert, was an eminent physiologist and anatomist.

of Office in 1801 He obtained a Pension of £1500 a year to be settled upon C. Long. Upon Mr. Pitt again coming into Office C. Long was appointed to a situation under the government, & after the death of Mr. Pitt He having adhered to those political men who acted with that Minister went out of office with them, but after the death of Mr. Fox, and on Lords Grenville & Grey going out of office & the Duke of Portland with Mr. Perceval &c. again forming a Ministry He returned to power with them & was appointed to His present situation.—He married Miss Hume eldest daugr. of Sir Abraham Hume Bart. & niece to the Earl of Bridgwater.—

4th. Son—The Revd. Wm. Long, Canon of Windsor, &c.—

Lady Prescott, widow of the late Sir George William Prescott, a Banker.

Temperance

November 1.—This day we dined at the Revd. Mr. Hamond's, Rector of Penshurst. In the intercourse I have had in this country I have observed that the Gentlemen drink very little wine. Generally, indeed, it appears that a great change has taken place in this respect since the earlier period of my life.—

Mr. Hamond told me that His Father resides at or very near Marlow in Buckinghamshire, where this family had dwelt for 200 years.—The conversation which has taken place at the dinner tables I have been at is seldom carried beyond Provincial, local subjects, with some portion of what relates to Agriculture, Shooting, &c.—General topics are seldom introduced.—

November 4.—Before 9 oClock I left Red Leaf with Mrs. W. Wells and J. Wells, with the former in Her carriage to Sevenoaks, & with the latter from thence to Bromley in a Chaise; & from Bromley I returned to London in the Tunbridge Coach.

CHAPTER XVIII

1811

Skill and Charity

November 8.—Lysons called, & spoke of the late Mr. Trye* of Gloucester, His Brother-in-Law. As a Surgeon His ability & skill was such as to cause Him to be consulted by medical men in particular cases who were situated at a great distance from Him, & His charitable feelings caused Him to give His assistance to the lowest ranks of the people with as much readiness as to the highest regardless of any emolument, which was a consideration that so little operated upon Him that from His most extensive practise He never made £1200 in any one year.

Witht. the ostentation of being so He was a truly religious man. Among His papers there have been found many prayers made upon particular occasions, some of them particularly excellent. The disorder of which He died was seated in His Head, & many months before His death He told S. Lysons that He felt sensations in His Head which He was assured had a fatal tendency. He was 54 years old.—He has left 8 children; the eldest will have His Father's estate, abt. £2000 a yr. and a *living* of £400 a year is attached to it, which Lysons hopes He will prepare Himself for by taking orders.—Mr. Trye was taken ill on a Wednesday & died on the Monday following, & throughout his illness conducted Himself with a resignation & composure truly admirable. To His younger children He has left property amounting to £28000, which, when divided, will allow to each £4000.—

His Lordship is Willing

After speaking on this melancholy subject, Lysons mentioned the Antiquarian Society and read a copy of a letter from Lord Aberdeen to Lawrence in which His Lordship expresses His willingness to accept the *Presidency* of the Society, provided there shall appear to be as much of certainty of His success as can be reasonably reckoned upon on such occasions.

On Thursday last Sir Henry Englefield, who has been elected temporary Vice President by the Council, was in the Chair & spoke an Eulogium on

* Dr. Charles Brandon Trye, F.R.S. See Vol. II., page 156.

the late President, Marquiss Townshend, who, He said, found the Society consisting of 300 members & left it when the number had much through Him, increased to 800. This panegyric was thought to be ill-bestowed, as the Marquess had most notoriously neglected the Society, and had He been the cause of the numbers being so much increased it might truly be said that He had done away [with] all *selection* in forming the body, & made it no longer a mark of any distinction to belong to it.—Lysons is very active for Lord Aberdeen & thinks He will succeed.

A Promising Artist

November 9.—Mr. Bury,* a young man, now a student of University College, Oxford, called upon me, His introduction being from Mr. Jennings of Bath. His mind is much devoted to painting as an amusement, and He said, He makes it a principal study, and, after taking his *degree* at Oxford, He shall apply still more closely. He was in Wales, at Dolgelly, Carnarvon &c. the last summer, & remained 2 months in that country making landscape studies.—He mentioned a process for making studies which He had hit upon. He expressed a wish that there should be a College established at the Nation's expence for the instruction and support of young men whose talents should appear to promise their being able Artists.

Fuseli and Haydon

J. Lane I called upon at His Lodgings, No. 23 Great Pulteney St. & saw the Outline of His picture of Eutychus—on a large Canvass.—He told me that Fuseli last night informed Him that in consequence of an abusive paragraph having appeared in the *Examiner*, He had signified to *Haydon* His desire that He (Haydon) should no longer call upon Him, as to Haydon He attributed this paragraph, " Only 3 persons had seen my picture " sd

* Edward John Bury, says Constance Lady Russell, was a man of good family, but he had no money. His " father, who died at Bridgwater in 1837, aged eighty, was a lineal descendant of Douglas Earl of Morton." Young Mr. Bury, however, had extravagant tastes. He was apparently a very clever artist, greatly influenced by Turner. The *Quarterly Review* for 1834 said that " the world had lost a truly great artist by the death of Mr. John Bury." In his youth he travelled in Italy with the beautiful Lady Charlotte Campbell's eldest son, then seventeen years of age. His love of art and agreeable manners won the favour of the boy's mother, who " foolishly engaged to become his wife." And so they were married (she being in her forty-third year) on March 23, 1818, in Florence. She was given away by Admiral Sir Thomas Freemantle, and was attended by the celebrated Misses Berry, the " twin wives " of Horace Walpole. Mr. Bury, having been ordained, became rector of Titchfield, in Hants, but evidently never officiated there himself.

Lady Charlotte seems to have led a happy life with her husband. " He has his faults, like all of us," she wrote, " but as a husband has as few as possible—inexpressibly careful and tender to me—quite lover-like, never leaving me, and all his tastes and pursuits those which are most refined and most of a nature to keep him constantly at my side; indeed, he has no wish ever to leave me and his child for a moment." She had two daughters by him and nine children by her first husband, handsome Jack Campbell. Mr. Bury illustrated her poem, " The Three Sanctuaries of Tuscany," which appeared in 1834, and got her into serious trouble by the publication of her private journal, letters, &c., under the title of *The Life and Times of George IV.*, a work which " gave great offence to her many friends, who never forgave her." See Vol. I., page 141.

Fuseli, " when the paragraph abusing it appeared, and Haydon was one of them. The two other persons have assured me that they never spoke of my picture, it remains therefore with Haydon alone."—Fuseli had long countenanced & recommended the talents of Haydon.

The Duke of Infantado

J. P. Kemble I dined with at 6.—Mrs. Kemble was at the Lord Mayor's dinner Ball yesterday, & saw the Duke de Infantado* open the Ball with Lady Georgina Cecil, daughter of the Marquiss of Salisbury in a Minuet. He appeared to be about 33 years old. The only distinction from an Englishman which she remarked in Him was, His having something more of state manner and carriage.—

The Actor and His Audience

We had some conversation respecting Shakespere's play of Macbeth. Kemble was decidedly for not introducing the *figure* of *Banquo* in the *Feast Scene*, but to let it be expressed by Macbeth as the image of His disturbed imagination. During 7 years, He said, He had so acted it, but it was then called for by a few persons in the gallery, and the cry being supported, He had been obliged to comply contrary to His judgment, & the figure of Banquo again appears in Macbeth's chair.—Lawrence differed from Kemble upon this point, & thought the appearance of Banquo necessary to give full effect to the scene.—My opinion was, That Kemble's judgment was right as to the propriety of it, but I doubted whether for stage effect to a large & mixed audience it was not calculated to give the scene full effect.—

Kemble made a distinction between a *Ghost* and an *Apparition*.—Banquo, said He, is a *ghost*, & should be pictured only in words as an idea; on the contrary in Hamlet, the [father] of Hamlet is an *apparition*, which has a part to perform.—

He said that He was born at Prescot, near Liverpool, Lancashire.—Speaking of His constitution He said, That He is never hungry, that it does not feel a craving for food, and can fast long without inconvenience, but that when He sets down to dinner He can feed heartily.—He had twice in His life fasted two days successively and felt no inconvenience from it.—

* Spanish statesman.

CHAPTER XIX

1811

The Duke of Norfolk

November 16.—Richard Smirke came to tea.—He gave me some acct. of His excursion to see the newly discovered Roman Pavement in Sussex abt. 6 miles from Arundel Castle. He accompanied Saml. Lysons, & they together made accurate drawings of that part which is exposed to view & propose to explore more of it the next summer.—Arundel Castle was their Headquarters for 3 or 4 days whilst thus employed. The Duke of Norfolk was there & treated them in an hospitable manner, & accommodated Lysons with His Carriage.—They dined with the Duke at 6 oClock and had every day a party of 10 or 12 persons, chiefly from the neighbouring country, Clergymen &c.—The Duke's habit was after drinking 3 or 4 glasses of wine to fall asleep, & occasionally awaking when He always took a glass of wine and passed the Bottles, He continued this dozing till 10 oClock when they adjourned to tea.—The conversation generally turned upon Provincial matters,—of families & their property, &c. &c. and in this the Duke shewed a large acquaintance with connexions, &c.—

Arundel Castle, is in a very unfinished state not to say comfortless. There are a few rooms only fit to be occupied, except Bedchambers, the latter, except some reserved apartments but indifferently furnished. The Duke usually rose in a morning at from 9 to ½ past 9, but the breakfast did not wait for Him.

Romney

November 17.—I went to St. James's Chapel & recd. the Holy Sacrament. Mr. Steevens, in His Sermon, noticed with much satisfaction the increasing number of Communicants at this Chapel.—

Stewardson a Portrait Painter, called upon me, to request that I would from my Exhibition Catalogues inform Him what pictures the late George Romney exhibited in 1760. This information He wanted for the Revd. Mr. Romney, Son to G. Romney, who is writing a life of His Father.—He said Romney died possessed of abt. £16000. The Son has built a handsome house near Ulverstone in Lancashire.—Stewardson told me that he resides in Leadenhall Street, and has there as much business as He can do, " more,

said He, I believe than any other Portrait Painter, Lawrence excepted; and, He added, it all comes from the West end of the town, Peers, &c."—

S. Lane called. He spoke of the death of the late George Hogg of Lynn, and said, He died worth several hundred thousand pounds. He left 13 Children,—Handsome fortunes to His Sons, & to each daughter £10,000.—

The Duchess of Devonshire

November 18.—[The Rev. Dr. Thomas] Hughes spoke of the late Duchess of Devonshire, and said it is curious to see how some persons seem to compromise with their own Souls, by performing certain duties. "I am told," said He, "That the Duchess when at Chiswick was accustomed to go to Church on Sundays regularly & that not only in the morning but in the afternoon also, yet we know what sort of a life she led." He proceeded and said that it appeared to Him that the people of this age are not worse, perhaps better, than formerly. He had met with several persons such as it might not be expected from who in conversation He found to have read much on religious points. Dr. Paley's works were very popular He thought.—

Spied Upon the King

Dr. Monro has lately been frequently in attendance upon the King at Windsor, but on these occasions, He & Dr. Simmons are not announced to the King who being blind is kept in ignorance of their being there. We are Spies upon Him sd. Monro, for the purpose of judging of His mental & bodily state.—Monro was struck with the King's chearfulness & conversation even in this unhappy state, & said to Hearne, "The King is the pleasantest man I ever came near,"—Of those about Him of all degrees He seems to know everything. When not engaged in conversation with them He holds fancied conversations with various characters but mostly with deceased statesmen.—His bodily Health Monro thinks very good, but the Malady has much of a fixed character.—The reports of Dr. Willis having disapproved of the treatment of His Majesty as prescribed by His Physicians are not true. Dr. Willis has approved of their mode of proceeding.—

Mary Cole

The Berkeley Peerage cause being talked of D. Lysons said that He had been told by persons* who were at Berkeley Castle since the death of the late Lord, not more than three months after His decease, that Lady Berkeley (ci-devant Mary Cole) His widow, walked through the apartments with them, & while shewing them [one] told them it was the room in which Lord Berkeley died. She then described the wretched state of His mind during His last illness, & said He often cried out, "*Retribution*" alluding thereby to acts which He had performed & for which He was then suffering.—Yet it has fully appeared that His acts of Perjury for the

* See Vol. I., page 272.

purpose of legitimatizing His & Her illegitimate children were done by Her instigation. Serjeant Best, Her Council, now says, That He never before met with so great a Lyar as Her Ladyship. She told Him Her Mother was dead at the time she was living in Lincolnshire & to Her knowledge.—

West Looked Ill

November 20.—Mr. West called. He looked ill, & told me He had been confined to His chamber for some days, which had been ascribed to a cold, " but," said He, " the truth is, it is the effect of over application. Having had to superintend the progress of the work carrying on at Coade's Manufactory to commemorate Lord Nelson, from my designs for Greenwich Hospital I have applied too much, & thinking a week of such application wd. complete my part of the business, I exerted myself till I could do so no longer,—having applied by night and by day."—I told Him that at His time of life, being in His 74th. year such exertions were bad oeconomy of His time, as by disabling Himself He lost more time than He gained.—

We talked of the Premiums, the Gold Medals, to be given this year at the Royal Academy on the 10th. of Decr. He said that tomorrow He wd. go to the Academy to see the works produced, and should they prove to have merit enough to warrant their being publicly shewn, He would have the Premiums delivered in the Great Room in a Public manner & would read something applicable on the occasion, having matter now in hand for such purpose, & that of a new & interesting kind. But shd. the works prove to be indifferent it wd. be most prudent for the Academy to make no show of them, but to transact the business in the Council room.—He expressed a wish that I would dine with him & Mrs. West tomorrow & that I shd. meet Lawrence.—

Mr. West, today, said, He was the more disposed to read the discourse which He has been forming as considering His time of life it might be the only opportunity He might expect to have to do it.—N.B. The *Gold medals* are given only once in 2 years.—

Home, the Surgeon

November 21.—Lawrence called. He spoke of the Prince Regent being confined at Oatlands* in consequence of having sprained His ancle. Such is the habit of His body, that much inflammation ensued, which caused much pain & restlessness. To procure Him sleep a few nights since, He took by order of His medical attendants 250 drops of Laudanum which gave him 3 hours sleep.—This was told by *Home*, the Surgeon,† who attends Him.—

* Oatlands House was built on the site of the Henry VIII. palace which was destroyed in the Civil War. The Duke of York bought it about 1788 from the Duke of Newcastle, who made the wonderful grotto which still exists, and was a popular feature of the house when it became a hotel.

† Sir Everard Home (1756-1852), the eminent surgeon, studied under Dr. John Hunter, and acted as his assistant. Home for some unknown reason burned all Hunter's valuable papers. The latter married Home's only sister.

CHAPTER XX

1811

West at Seventy-four

November 21.—West informed me that He was preparing to paint a picture 22 feet wide by 16 feet high. The subject "Pilate shewing Christ to the Jews," and He shewed me His small painted study for it, which, from a date upon it appeared to have been executed in July last. I expressed my surprise at His resolution in undertaking so large a work at His time of life, 74 years old. He smiled and made light of it. He said Brown was preparing the Canvass for Him, that He proposed to begin the picture in January next, & should finish it in Six months, & would not desire more time. He said "When the principal points shall have been finished up to their proper force all the other parts of the picture will go off expeditiously. It is upon a few points that the eye fixes & these having been attended to the business is in a great measure done."

Mr. West said He has been informed that Copley is now painting a large picture, the subject "The Resurrection" apparently with a view to its being purchased by the Proprietors of the British Institution who gave Mr. West 3000 guineas for His picture of "Christ healing the Sick".—I remarked to West that I had lately noticed a great alteration in Copley's personal appearance, He having a look of imbecility, and a sort of absent, bewildered manner. West sd. He had felt as I did.—

West said that on Thursday last He sat to Nollekens for His Bust to be executed in Marble for the British Institution, it being the last time for His sitting.—He said Nollekens now rises at 6 in the morning, and breakfasts soon after 7, and before 8 oClock receives His first sitter. He is now fully occupied in executing *Busts* of various persons. Nollekens is now 74 years old, but strong and quite competent to work.

A Scotsman Elected

November 22.—Lysons called & told me the result of the Election last night at the Antiquary Society. There were abt. 100 members present & 92 voted for Lord Aberdeen.—Mr. Dallaway, Secretary to the Duke of Norfolk told Lysons that the Duke is not satisfied to have a *Scotchman*

elected to be President of the Society, and thinks of proposing Lord Radnor.—N. Carlisle told me on Thursday that on the death of Marquiss Townshend having occasion to write to Lord Spencer He suggested to His Lordship How desireable it wd. be to see Him President of the Antiq: Society. Lord Spencer replied, That were [He] to have the Honor of that situation, He should think it His duty to devote much of His attention to it, which His health (He was then ill) would not allow.—

November 23.—Boswell called. He spoke of [the] Prince Regent, & said "He takes little exercise, not such as His bulk requires, He seldom rides on Horseback,—never walks, & only has the exercise which a Carriage gives Him."

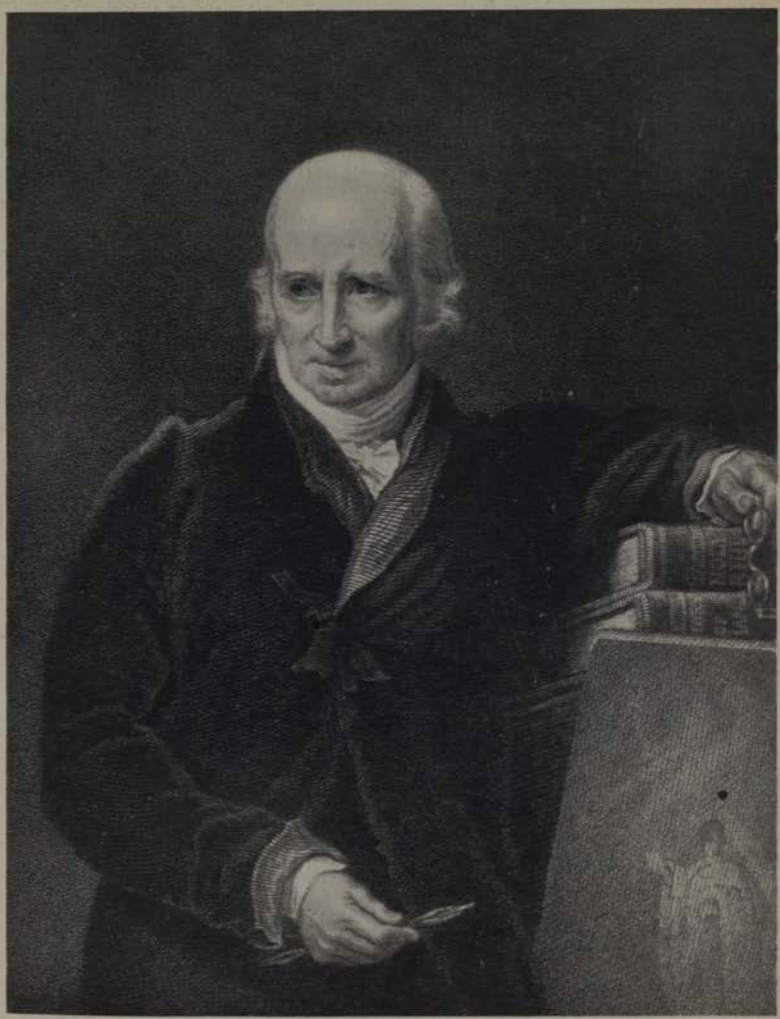
The Work of R.A. Students

November 26.—At one oClock I went to the Royal Academy. Yenn I met there & Dance, & with the latter audited the Treasurer (Yenn's) accts. for the last 3 quarters, viz: to Lady Day, Midsummer & Michaelmas 1811.—Dance strongly objected to the expence the Academy is at in paying the defficiencies at Birthday [dinners] at the Crown and Anchor Tavern.—After auditing the accts. we went to the Great Exhibition Room and inspected the pictures, models and drawings sent for the Gold Medals & the Silver Medals this being the year in which both are offered. We found the pictures very indifferent, & the Architectural designs either in a bad taste or carelessly executed. One of the Models, viz: Hercules rescuing Alcestis from Orcus.—vide Potters Euripedes, well designed & respectably executed.—

Sir Nathaniel's Death

On our way from the Academy George Dance [R.A.] gave me the following particulars of the death of His late Brother Sir Nathaniel Holland (ci devant N. Dance). On the 15th. of October last He rode on Horseback to Winchester 5 miles from Cranberry the seat of Lady Holland as widow to the late Mr. Dummer.—Lady Holland & two or three young Ladies visitors at Cranberry went in the Coach,—they made a visit to Mrs. Hume a resident at Winchester. Sir Nathl. left them for a while, & meeting Dr. Rennel, Dean of Winchester, & Master of the Temple,—He walked with Him into the Cathedral to look at one or two monuments lately erected there. Whilst Sir Nathl. was with Dr. Rennel, He said, "I feel a little uncomfortable abt. my stomach" for which Dr. Rennel desired Him to take some pepper mint water, which the Doctor gave Him & [Sir Nathaniel] then said "It has had the effect you expected" & spoke as if the uneasiness was removed.

He then returned to Lady Holland at Mrs. Hume's in very good spirits, & sat down upon a window seat it being an old fashioned House. Having seen something absurd in one or both of the monuments He began



BENJAMIN WEST, P.R.A.
By G. H. Harlow

To face p. 64

pleasantly to describe them to the Ladies so as to excite much laughter. Suddenly one of the young Ladies who was looking at Him screamed out, & all then turning towards Him saw Him with His [head] laid back and quite dead.—The effect may be conceived.—An express was sent off to Dance which reached His House in Upper Gower St. in the night, & as soon as He could get a Carriage He set off for Winchester where He arrived at 3 oClock in the afternoon.

His Love for Angelica

After having related these circumstances He spoke of His Brother's appearance when dead. The countenance, sd. He, was placid even to approach a smile. There had been no struggle, no suffering.—He then spoke of Him in other respects, "He was," said He, "as honest a man as in the world, and had very strong affections. The latter was shown in His passionate love of the late Angelica Kauffman, R.A. With Her He had become acquainted at Rome, & an attachment most sincere on His side grew out of it. They came to England and were then pledged to each other to marry by every possible declaration.—While He was in this state of confidence she witht. explanation or anything preceding it shut Her door against Him. His distress was excessive, even to a degree to quite unman Him in His expressions of grief.

"At that time He resided in Tavistock row, Covent Garden, and practised His profession History & Portrait Painting; and it was believed by many, that the views of Angelica were then turned from Him to Sir Joshua Reynolds, who was induced by Her personal accomplishments and Her talent in Painting, to pay much attention to Her but probably never with any serious intention."—This severe trial being got over, He had abt. 10 or 12 years after the good fortune to marry Mrs. Dummer, widow of Mr. Dummer of Cranberry in Hampshire, who left Her His whole fortune, said to be 8 or £9000 a year for Her life. With Her, a beautiful woman, and of a good disposition, He lived happily till His death after a union of near 30 years. He was made a Baronet & changed His name in 1801.

They had no children, but having in their House a respectable man their Butler who had a daughter, they were accustomed to have the child brought into the parlour, which gradually became a habit, so as to cause them to bring Her up, as they would have done a child of their own had they had one,—and Lady Holland, Dance now said, is as fond of Her as if she was Her own child. She is abt. 16 years old.—For some years there was something awkward in the girl sitting at table which she constantly has done, whilst Her Father was waiting at the Side-board. This, however, of late has not been the case, He being now a kind of *Major Domo*. His name is *Elles*, He shewed unfeigned grief upon the death of Sir Nathaniel.—Dance spoke of Lady Holland, who has shewn a most amicable disposition in what relates to the interests of others.—

A Vindication

He expressed much gratitude towards J. Taylor for having in the Newspaper, *The Sun*, vindicated the memory of Sir Nathaniel from the reproach of having endeavoured to buy up pictures painted by Himself with a view to suppress the idea of His having been a Painter. An attack of this nature was made upon His memory in some newspaper, which Taylor replied to and confuted. I told Dance that nothing could be more unjust or foolish than such an accusation. Could it be possible that He who could have such a wish, should at various periods after His situation became comparatively elevated, exhibit pictures with His name annexed to them, at the great Exhibition of the Royal Academy?—He was 76 years old when He died.—Sir N. Holland had throughout life been a very temperate liver. He drank very little wine. To drink wine was a habit to which He had never accustomed himself.—

CHAPTER XXI

1811

A Doctor's Kindness

November 29.—Mrs. J. Offley called to-day. She sat to Lawrence yesterday abt. 4 Hours & He completed Her portrait & expressed Himself satisfied with what He had done. She seemed to be much pleased with the picture.—

She gave me a further instance of Dr. Baillie's kindness. She observed, that He now comes once a week, on *Thursdays*. He called yesterday, when she told Him that since J. Offley ceased to take the cordial & stimulating medicines His appetite was less, and costiveness had followed.—In consequence of this He said " You shall be your own *Apothecary*. Take 20 heads of Camomile flowers, and 20 *Cloves*; pour a pint of boiling water upon them & let it stand for an Hour: then strain it through a piece of muslin, & every day one Hour before Mr. Offley dines, give Him a wine glass full of it." On His going away Mrs. Offley offered Him His fee, which He refused saying " I do not come as a Physician, I only call to know how you do ".—Such is the feeling of this good man!

Mediocrity at the R.A.

November 30.—The Academy General Meeting I went to at two oClock, it being the day for voting the Gold & Silver Medals.—The President opened the business & witht. approving the pictures offered for the Premium, thought the Gold Medal had been given for pictures not superior in merit.—I objected to giving the Premium to any work upon the ground of what may have been done heretofore, and I gave my opinion that as the Academy had now offered 50 guineas in addition to the Gold Medal as a further inducement to exertion, the Premium ought not to be given but to a work of such quality as should exhibit much preparatory study, & a promise of future excellence.—

Flaxman followed me in speaking & professed entirely to concur with me in what I had said.—Shee & Woodforde differed from us, and spoke of *one* or *two* of the *Seven* pictures now under our consideration as well meriting the Premium.—Fuseli regretted that He felt it to be His duty to

declare His opinion to be against giving the Gold medal to any of the pictures. The best of them promised nothing beyond mediocrity.—Stothard concurred with Fuseli, & particularly remarked on the want of that which should be considered essential in a student. In the best of these pictures there it a manifest defficiency in *drawing* & Academical preparation.—A Ballot *in the Box* was then taken whether the Gold medal for painting should be given?

Ayes. — 7. Noes 8.

A Ballot was then taken for Sculpture,—Gold Medal.—Ayes, *unanimous.*

A Ballot for Architecture—Gold Medal—Ayes 13,—Noes 2.—

The Effect on Students

I left the Academy with Mr. West. He asked my opinion which, He said, He had desired to do, "Whether I thought it would be most proper to give the Gold medals this year publicly in the Great Room of the Academy, or in the Council room where besides the members of the Academy Students only wd. be admitted?"—I told him my mind had for sometime been made up upon it, and that I thought it would be most proper and becoming the dignity of the Institution to give them *publickly*; which, also, must have a stimulating effect upon the students, as they wd. see how marked and distinguished a student who should gain a gold medal would be made to appear.—He signified to me that He had prepared a Discourse for the occasion, to be read publickly or privately as might seem best.—

Copley's Regret

We talked of Copley, & His dejected appearance. He said Copley had explained what was upon His mind. The estate which He sold lying upon the high grounds above Boston in New England (America) has on acct. of its elevation become the chosen spot for the wealthy inhabitants to build upon, which has so increased the value of the land that the estate which He sold for £7000 is now worth £100,000; upon this He ruminates, & with other reflections founded upon disappointments, passes these His latter days unhappily.—

Mrs. Siddons Unfit for Comedy

December 3.—Mr. Malone spoke of Mrs. Siddons as being a great *Tragic Actress*, but naturally, and still more by habit, unfit for comic characters. Her manner, in common life, is a measured, artificial manner, which is manifest whenever she appears in Comedy,—Her voice said He, was never good,—and Her powers (physically) have now so far failed that I think it is time for Her to quit the stage.

December 5.—I walked to Lysons's Chambers in the Temple & with Him I went to the Royal Society Club to dinner.—Sir Joseph Banks told me that the origin of the Royal Society Club was as follows:—Dr. Halley, the celebrated Astronomer, resided at Greenwich, but came to London once a week to meet a few philosophical friends forming a small Club. At this time they paid one shilling each for dinner, & a penny each for the waiter, & Sir Joseph said that when He first visited the Club the payment was only ¼ a Crown each, and the penny for the waiter was customary at that time. It is now Seven shillings each person which includes the waiter and all expences.—

Sir Joseph told me that He had just recd. from the *Institute Society, in Paris*, the Official Documents which constitute Dr. Jenner, author of the *Vaccine Discovery*, a member of the Institute.—I asked Him whether He was enabled to keep up a regular correspondence and communication with the Institute. He said it was a matter of great uncertainty depending upon the caprice of Buonaparte. Sometimes He has been in the humour to allow the communication to be easy, and at other times when He has appeared to be out of humour with the Institute it has been stopped. Sir Joseph added, "I have been a year & a half together witht. receiving any communication, & having had it signified to me that receiving letters from me might be dangerous I have forborne from writing."

Sir Joseph attended at the Admiralty a short time since & saw a model exhibiting means by which a great saving of timber might be made in building Ships, to the amount of £100 Oak trees in a 74 gun man of war. A Ship has been built agreeably to this model & has answered fully, & three men of war have been ordered to be built agreeably to it.—

We dined at 5 oClock precisely. I noticed that Sir Joseph, who is in a very invalid like state ate only fish & pudding & drank no wine. On the contrary His left-hand neighbour, Sir Everard Home, the celebrated Surgeon, filled His glass with Port Wine every time that the bottle came round contrary to the prevailing recommendation of medical men in these days.—

CHAPTER XXII

1811

Water for Marylebone

December 5.—At the Royal Society Club today there was some conversation respecting the new plan of supplying Marybone parish &c. with water for which an act of parliament has passed. It was stated that the great Pipes which have been laid down are of *Iron*, & that the calculation of the expence attending this mode of conveying the water is £18,000 pr. mile.

The Antiquary Society I went to; Sir Henry Englefield in the Chair.—Lord Holland came there accompanying the Spanish Ambassador, The Duke de Infantado, & with them S. Rogers [Banker-Poet], with whom they had dined.—The Duke de Infantado is a middle-sized man as to height,—very slight in bulk,—His face thin; His general appearance very easy & genteel. He was plainly dressed, having no decoration of any kind.

December 15.—[Lestock] Wilson's I dined at.—Wilson sd. that being upon a visit to His Brother-in-law, Mr. Boileau, in Warwickshire, abt. 10 years ago, who resided near the Marquiss of Hertford's at Bragley, He, with Mr. Boileau, dined with the Marquiss, who, with the Marchioness, made the party 4 in number. After the Marchioness retired from the dinner table, the Marquiss told them, as a remarkable circumstance, that the Marchioness was only 15 years older than Her Son, Lord Yarmouth.

John Constable

December 17.—I called upon Constable to see the painted Studies (Landscapes from nature) which He made in the country during the Autumn.—I recommended to Him as He had been studying particular appearances, now to think of *atmosphere* & general effect.—

He told me He passed three weeks at Salisbury with the Bishop in Septr. last, and went to Sir Richd. Hoare's at Stourhead with him; where He met the Revd. Wm. Coxe, Author of *Travels* & of the Life of Sir Robt. Walpole.—Mr. Coxe is a singular man in many respects: very little attention to others in His manners, and remarkable for His love of good eating. On His leaving Stourhead, Sir Richd. Hoare said "He is gone

away well filled, as I have given Him Venison every day."—He is a Prebend of Salisbury, & resides much there, where He carries Himself high among the Clergy who look up to Him as a superior man.—

Nelson's Protégée

Miss Girdlestone* had been on a visit at Godwick in Norfolk, inhabited by the Revd. Dixon Hoste and His family. There she saw His [Son] Captn. Hoste† of the Navy who has so gallantly distinguished himself in that service. He has acquired a handsome fortune by captures, but by an agreement when young with a fellow midshipman, now Captn. Briggs, by which they pledged themselves to each other to *share* equally between them whatever profits they might obtain in the Service, one Half of His gains have been paid to Briggs. Dixon Hoste has 5 Sons & 2 daughters now living. One of the Sons is a Captain in the Engineer Corps; another is to be a Clergyman; and another is a midshipman in the Navy. Hoste has always been improvident in His expences, & at more than 60 years of age continues to be so. He lately neglected to pay His taxes, & had an Exchequer Process instituted against Him.—The Process was stayed for a time in consequence of His stating that He expected His Son, Captn. Hoste, to arrive with His Ship in England. The reputation of the Son operated as desired.—The prospect of the daugrs. is very unfavourable as they can have no expectation of any fortune.—D. Hoste, has high spirits, drinks His bottle a day, & leaves matters to chance.—His living at Godwick given to Him by Mr. Coke, together with what was left of His former fortune is estimated at £800 a yr.—

The Prince Alarmed

December 23.—Hayes called and gave me some directions respecting my Cold. He told me that the late murders of Mr. Marr's, & Mr.

* Daughter of Samuel Girdlestone, solicitor, of No. 1, New-square, Lincoln's Inn.

† William Hoste (1780-1828), of Flemish descent, was the second son of the Rev. Dixon Hoste, rector of Godwick and Tittleshall, in Norfolk. Born at Ingoldisthorpe, William entered the Navy on August 26, 1793, as the special protégé of Nelson, then a captain, with whom he remained for several years in various ships. He served in the actions off Toulon in 1795 and in the battle off Cape St. Vincent. When Hoste, now captain, heard of the death of Nelson at Trafalgar he wrote to his father: "Not to have been in the battle is enough to make one mad; but to have lost such a friend besides is really sufficient to almost overwhelm me. . . . I like my ship [the *Amphion*, 36 guns] very much, as the last gift of that excellent man I shall ever consider her, and stay in her during the war." Hoste's many achievements in the Adriatic, which included a brilliant victory at Lissa and the reduction of Cattaro, won him a great reputation, and he was made a Baronet in 1814. But his many hardships and exposure to wet and cold undermined his health, and he died of a decline in London on December 6, 1828, says the D.N.B. Hoste was married to Lady Harriet Walpole, daughter of the third Earl of Orford.

It is said that he applied £50,000 of the £60,000 prize-money he gained in the Adriatic to the relief of his father.

Hoste, always loyal to the memory of Nelson, signalled "Remember Nelson" as his own squadron and the enemy's were about to engage in the battle off Lissa.

Williamson's families in Ratcliffe Highway, & Gravel Lane, have so much alarmed the Prince Regent as to cause Him to give orders to Coll. Bloomfield not to allow any stranger to be admitted to Carlton House after 8 oClock at night. This has occasioned great disappointment to the Prince's servants who had made preparations for entertaining their friends at Christmas.—

Lawrence and a Murderer

December 29.—Lawrence called in the even'g.—He said that on Friday even'g last He went to my Brother Robert at the Rectory, who, at His desire, introduced Him to Mr. Markland, one of the Shadwell Magistrates & He gave Him an order for admittance to the Prison in Cold Bath fields, where He saw the dead body of Williams the murderer of Mr. & Mrs. Marr &c., who, that morning hung himself in His Cell.—On His return Home He made a drawing of Williams, which He assured me was a very strong likeness of Him.—This drawing He had sent to me last night & I was much struck with, as having every appearance of being a faithful likeness.—We talked of a print being made from it, & He sd. He wd. tomorrow morning apply to Conde, the Engraver, for that purpose.—In what manner to publish it was deferred for further consideration.—

He spoke of the great popularity of Kemble & Mrs. Siddons.—Harris, the principal Proprietor of Covent Garden Theatre told Robert Smirke a day or two since that the receipts of the Theatre on the *five last nights* of their performing in *Coriolanus* amounted to £3000.—

CHAPTER XXIII

1812

Lord Lonsdale

January 6.—Mr. Sutton, Butler to Lord Lonsdale called upon me accompanied by His Wife, late Miss Crossthwaite of Keswick. He gave the highest character possible of Lord & Lady Lonsdale & the whole of the family. Lord Lonsdale had promised to obtain a place for Him under Government, & Mr. Long* was to effect it for His Lordship.—

Story of a Picture

January 10.—The ground covered with snow, and the darkness such in the middle of the day as scarcely to allow sufficient light to read a newspaper at the window.—Constable† called & talked of His private affairs, His mind being made easy by assurances which He has recd.—He told me Haydon‡ had sent His picture of *Macbeth* to the British Institution & that He was confident of obtaining the first Premium, 300 guineas, for it. —After He had finished this picture He wrote to Sir George Beaumont informing Him of it. Sir George replied that as Haydon had altered the size of His picture He, Sir George, no longer considered it as having been painted for Him.—To this Haydon replied, and though not now countenanced by Lord Mulgrave He sent copies of the correspondence to His Lordship.—Haydon is now much elated with His prospects, & speaks of the Royal Academy very slightly, saying as they had lost the opportunity when they might have elected him, it might now [be necessary] for them to send a Deputation to solicit Him to be of the Society.—

An Architect's Profits

January 18.—Robert Smirke§ came to tea.—He told me He had arranged the accts. of the expences attending the building & completing

* Charles Long, afterwards Lord Farnborough.

† John Constable, R.A.

‡ Benjamin Robert Haydon.

§ Afterwards Sir Robert Smirke, R.A.

Covent Garden Theatre. His own profits (a percentage of 5 per cent. upon the expenditure) amounts to nearly £10,000, but His expences to Clerks employed amounts towards £2,000.—Six thousand pounds remains now due to him for which He is to have *Bonds* bearing interest, which are to be paid off gradually,—the last in 1819.—He has at present the following commissions—

Lowther Castle—finishing.
The *Mint*, of which He is the Surveyor & Architect.
A House to be built for Lord Somers in Worcestershire near the Malvern Hills. The designs & plans are agreed upon; the estimate £95,000, approved by His Lordship, and in abt. a fortnight He is to go with His Lordship to mark the ground & begin the foundations.
A Bridge at Carlisle—estimate £40,000.
A Bridge at Gloucester do. £20,000.
The Court House at Carlisle—a work of long continuance.

January 20.—Lawrence called.* He told me that A. Baring is of opinion that the Prince Regent is playing between the two political parties, the Grenvilites, and the Percevals† & Wellesley's, in order to obtain payment of His debts, & whatever He wants, & that He will act & choose a ministry such as He likes, or such as from His natural timidity He dare not disoblige, meaning the Grenvilites to whom He has so much pledged himself. His disinclination to do business is such as to cause much trouble to those who have the public business to carry on.—

Painting in Candle Light

February 8.—Lawrence dined with me. He has been much employed in painting a picture of "Kemble in the Character of Cato," which He has been commissioned to do by *Lord Mountjoy*. This picture He has hitherto worked upon only by *Candlelight*, He being so much occupied by *Sitters* in the day time as not to be able to give up any of that time for this purpose.—He looked worn,—not fresh, or as He shd. do and I urged Him to consider the bad effects of over application.—The figure of Cato, He said, is clothed in a *White dress*, and He has found considerable difficulty in giving sufficient effect of *warmth* to this colour. He wished me to see it.—

Political Matters

We talked of political matters and of the measures which it was supposed the Prince Regent would adopt when the restrictions cease, which will be on the 18th inst.—He sd. that from what He had heard He did not

* Sir Thomas Lawrence, R.A.

† Spencer Perceval, Prime Minister, who was assassinated on May 11. See entry for that date.

expect there wd. be any material change of Ministers.* I mentioned the credited report of Lord Wellesley having resigned. He sd. Lord Wellesley is in respect of His circumstances a ruined man. Such has been the profligacy of His Expences that He has little left. What cause has occasioned His resignation is not explained. He is a favourite with the Prince Regent to whom He has made himself so by an accordance with His sentiments generally. Lord Petersham, who knows the Prince Regent well assured [Lawrence] that this was so. On the contrary sd. His Lordship, the Prince hates Lord Grey, whose mind and manners are not suited to the habits of the Regent.—

February 19.—Academy Council I went to.—Dance† told me that the late Lord Camden, who had been Chancellor, after having had a conversation with the Prince of Wales, said to Him (Dance) " That should the Prince become King, He foresaw that He would act discreetly and wisely ".—Dance thought this prediction verified by His Royal Highness having upon becoming Prince Regent with full power, determined to retain the present ministers, viz : Messrs. Perceval & Co.—

Troubles Abroad

February 20.—Wm. Wells‡ I dined with in Portugal St.—Captn. Wells lately returned from India where He commanded a frigate. He spoke of the troubles which had existed among the Military at Madras,—& of Sir George Barlow, who He described to be very obliging & courteous in His deportment, very much devoted to the India Directors, but has not large general views. Sir George has been thus described " He views the world & all that is in it from His writing desk ".—

Captn. Wells spoke of the British Sailors who at the Mauritius having been carried to that Island Prisoners, became French Soldiers. He said He attributed it solely to that unthinking levity which characterises Sailors, & not to any evil intention. A few of them have been brought to England and were tried for High treason a week ago as examples, there were 100 Sailors who had acted in this manner.—

* It was expected that the Marquess Wellesley would be appointed Prime Minister. He resigned, however, on February 19 and was succeeded by Castlereagh.

† George Dance, R.A.

‡ Shipbuilder and art collector.

CHAPTER XXIV

1812

A Gentleman Whig

February 28.—Robert Smirke called. He had been with Lord Somers* in Worcestershire, and had marked the foundations of the mansion which His Lordship is going to build for His family residence. He was with Lord S. alone for 3 weeks & passed His time very agreeably. Lord S. is a Whig, but a *Country gentleman Whig*, not going all lengths with those Politicians who profess themselves to be Whigs. He is a warm Advocate for carrying on the war against the French in Spain, & says, He does not agree with Lord Grenville &c. on this point. He has two Sons in the Army, now serving in that country.

Dislike of Lord Grey

March 6th.—Lawrence spoke of a report which in various ways is in circulation, viz: That at a dinner either at Carlton House, or at the Duke of York's, when the Prince Regent & Lord Lauderdale were of the party, the Prince expressed His strong & habitual dislike of Lord Grey,† and in such a manner as to cause Lord Lauderdale to say that the regard & respect He had for Lord Grey wd. not permit Him to hear such opinions of Him, which caused the Prince to drop the subject for a while, but He afterwards returned to it.—

Lawrence spoke of His own professional application yesterday. He sd. He began to paint at 9 oClock in the morning & painted till 5 by Day-light, and at 9 at night began to paint by Lamp-light & painted till ¼ past one oClock. He went to bed at ¼ past 2, & slept till 7 & arose at 8 oClock.—

Wilkie's Impropriety

March 13.—Howard told me & Smirke that He had spoken to Wilkie‡ abt. His sending pictures to the next Exhibition; & particularly that painted for Mr. Angerstein. Wilkie said that He should not send any

* John, first Earl Somers.

† Second Earl Grey, who became Prime Minister in 1830.

‡ Sir David Wilkie, R.A.

pictures to the next Exhibition as He meant to make an Exhibition of *His own*. Smirke & Howard in private conversation with me thought Wilkie acted improperly in thus at the very period of receiving His Diploma neglecting the Academy.—

March 16.—Wilkie called to mention that He had heard that His proposing to exhibit His pictures on his own private acct. had been much objected to by several members of the Academy. He was with Philips yesterday who, He said, was quite furious abt. it. I told Him that it certainly was ill-timed for him to make such an Exhibition at the period of His receiving His Academical Diploma, and that it must appear strange to see his name for the first time in the list of Academicians and none of His works in the Exhibition. He sd. He felt this, and proposed to send two pictures to the Exhibition,—one a highly finished sketch of "*The Inn Yard*" painted for Lord Mulgrave, and another finished sketch,—& wd. go to His Lordship for His permission,—& He desired me to mention to the Members of the Academy that such was His intention.

Rogers—a Poet ?

March 18.—Fuseli spoke of Rogers as a Poet, & said "He never wrote a line of Poetry in His life, all His good lines are *copies* from Poets, and in His 'Pleasures of Memory' he begins with *Gray*."—For this work, so popular does it continue to be, Rogers receives £100 a year from Booksellers for the privilege of publishing it.—

Indiscreet Conduct

March 21.—Wilson I dined with.—Coll. Cochrane, Brother to Lord Cochrane, had served in Portugal, & was blamed by Lord Wellington for indiscreetly pursuing the French garrison of Almeida beyond a point prescribed for Him, by which many men were killed.—He alluded to the above circumstance, & said "*He did not hear the order* for not proceeding,—that He lost only 34 men,—& that of the French they killed 150."—He spoke despondingly of the War in Spain,—& said Portugal wd. eventually be conquered by the French, but that the lines of Torres-Vedras are so strong that it would require 150,000 French to force them if defended by Lord Wellington. He said the Superior Orders of the Spaniards are inclined to the French, but the Mass of the people are otherwise—both, however, He sd. are ill-disposed towards the English.—He said the English troops have great confidence in Lord Wellington, and upon every duty act in full conviction that whatever appearance the service they are upon may wear, they rely upon it being well supported.—

We talked of the motions in the House of Commons for abolishing flogging in the Army. He said it would be impossible to preserve discipline without having the power of a summary mode of punishment of this kind.—

Napoleon and Bernadotte

March 27.—Mr. Angerstein's I dined at.—Mr. Angerstein* told us that He was 76 years old in January last, & that He began business 56 years ago.—He was born in 1735.—We talked of Buonaparte & of his apparent intention of going to the North with a view to a war with Russia, also of Sweden.—

Mr. Angerstein said, a Clergyman lately arrived from Stockholm dined with Him & spoke of Bernadotte,† the Crown Prince of Sweden. Bernadotte is believed to be determinedly hostile to Buonaparte who was jealous of him & was induced to send him to Sweden, but still relied upon His seconding the political views of Buonaparte. Bernadotte speaks of Lord Wellington as being the Greatest General of the Age, and that He pursues the right course in His manner of opposing the French. He avoids battles, & wastes the strength, & the money of Buonaparte by a protracted war. Such says Bernadotte, shd. be the conduct of *Russia* shd. Buonaparte attack that Power.

Chinnery the Cheat

Mr. Angerstein gave some acct. of *Chinnery*, one of the Chief Clerks of the Treasury, who has been proved to have defrauded [the] government of £70,000. The father of Chinnery was a celebrated writing master, and abt. 30 years ago taught the two daughters of Lord Thurlow to write. His Lordship happening to have some papers which He wished to have copied, desired Chinnery to recommend a person for that purpose. Chinnery mentioned His Son as qualified for the purpose and His Lordship employed Him. The business being completed Lord Thurlow did not make Him any recompense or take any notice of what He had done till abt. 3 months after, when He bid Chinnery to send His Son to Him. Lord Thurlow had mentioned Him to Mr. Rose then Secretary of the Treasury who in consequence got Him made a Clerk in that Office and Lord T. now announced to Him his good fortune. Mr. Rose also obtained for Him several *agencies* for Islands under the British Government, to which large Sums were annually voted by Parliament, which were paid to Chinnery who had a Commission upon the Expenditure of the money which was laid out in purchasing articles for the use of these Islands.

By cunning management Chinnery concealed from the Lords of the Treasury the misapplication of this money, & in many instances obtained credit with tradesmen for articles sent & left their Bills unpaid. His income was £4000 a year, yet He thus purloined the government money to the amount of £70,000.—His Son a young man has had a good education, & at Oxford lately much distinguished himself by His scholastic productions.—

* J. J. Angerstein, merchant and art collector.

† Jean Baptiste Jules Bernadotte, a French Marshal who in 1812 allied himself to Alexander of Russia and fought against Napoleon. Bernadotte succeeded to the throne of Sweden in 1818 as Charles XIV.

CHAPTER XXV

1812

Horne Tooke's MSS.

April 1.—Northcote I dined with.—Fuseli sd. that Sir Francis Burdett told Him on Sunday last that Horne Tooke previous to his death destroyed (burnt) all His manuscripts of His own writing. He had promised them to Sir Francis but thus disappointed Him. Tooke, in His Will, directed that His body shd. be buried in His own garden, but this the Executors did not attend to, as, (Sir Francis observed) that by so doing the sale of the House wd. have been affected by it.—

Turner's "Hannibal"

April 10.—The whole morn'g was busily employed in proceeding with the arrangement. Turner's large picture of "Hannibal crossing the Alps" was placed over the door not of the new room (but in the great room) & it was thought was seen to great advantage. Mr. West came & concurred in this opinion with Smirke, Dance & myself.—Calcott came and remarked that Turner had sd. that if this picture were not placed under the line He wd. rather have it back.—Calcott also thought it wd. be better seen if under the line.—He went away & we took the picture down & placed it opposite to the door of [the] entrance, the situation which Calcott mentioned. Here it appeared to the greatest disadvantage;—a scene of confusion and injuring the effect of the whole of that part of the arrangement. We therefore determined to replace it which was done.—

Turner the Autocrat

April 11.—Whilst we were at dinner [at the Academy] Turner came.—He asked me "What we had done with His pictures?" I told Him we had had much difficulty abt. His large picture "Hannibal crossing the Alps."—He went up stairs & staid a while and afterwards returned to us with an apparently assumed chearfulness, but soon went away and took Howard out of the room, who soon came back & informed us that Turner objected to His picture being placed above the line, Howard assured Him

it was seen there to better advantage, but He persisted in saying that if it were not to be placed below the line He would take it away; that as He saw us chearfully seated He would not now mention His intention to us, but would come on Monday morning to have the matter finally determined.—Smirke & Dance were decided to abide by the arrangement the Committee had made, and to leave Him to act as He may please.—

A Celebrated Singer

Dance spoke of the late Mrs. Bates formerly the celebrated Miss Radcliffe, the Singer, & widow of Joah Bates, a Commissioner of the Customs. She died of a cancerous complaint. By oeconomy she had saved £4000 for Her two children. After the loss of Her property £10,000 by the burning of the Albion Mills at Blackfryars-Bridge, it being uninsured, & the death of Her Husband, whose spirits sunk under this loss, the Lord Chancellor Thurlow obtained for Her a Pension of £400 a yr. out of which [she] saved the sum mentioned above.*

Death of the Duchess

April 12.—Mr. Penn called. He spoke of the death of the Duchess of Gordon, who died yesterday morning, & said He understood it was owing to a fall which injured the spine of Her back.—Lawrence I dined with. He said He had been informed that the Duchess of Gordon had suffered from an accident as above mentioned,—that she was also blind; and that previous to Her death she exhibited an impatient spirit,—would not see the Duke, and had not a disposition of resignation to the state in which she was placed.—†

Turner in Good Humour

April 13.—Turner came at noon, and after some conversation with Smirke, in which He expressed His determination to have His picture "Hannibal crossing the Alps" placed *below the line* or He would withdraw it, adding that [he] wished to have the joint determination of the Committee respecting it. Smirke told Him in the presence of Dance & myself, that having heard what He had said on the subject it was a matter for our consideration. He then went away.—I then proposed to place His picture at the head of the *new room* which was agreed to.—

After dinner we had conversation upon Art, which became more pointed by Calcott's saying "*That Novelty is the essence of art,*"—This led to much discussion, & it was the opinion of a majority that a principle which might have a good meaning yet if expressed in such words wd. be very dangerous in an Academy of Students.—

* See Index, Vol. II., of *Diary*.
† See Index, Vol. II., of *Diary*.

April 14.—Turner went upstairs & saw his large picture as it was placed in the new room, He appeared to be in good humour, but said He would not decide till tomorrow when He shd. see it by daylight.—

April 15.—I went to breakfast at the Academy.—Turner came and approved of the situation of His large picture provided other members shd. have pictures near it.—

Wellington at Badajoz

April 22.—Dance spoke of the late Marquiss of Lansdowne, who was Prime Minister in 1782- & 3, having known Him well. The Marquiss studied to preserve the most even & complaisant manners & unruffled temper, and did to the world very much preserve that appearance, but in fact He had not that self-command, for He would to His servants fly out in the most violent manner swearing & threatening, yet upon the sudden appearance of a stranger would reassume His smiles and courteous look.—Dance said His Lordship had a great desire to make His House princely, and such as He had seen abroad, & did do so in a great degree, but He had no taste.

April 24.—A Gazette was this day published announcing the taking of [Badajoz] in Spain by Lord Wellington.—Fuseli told me that on Wednesday last He again dined with the Princess of Wales at Kensington.—The Princess, He sd. is grown very large & in Her dress shews too much of the naked abt. Her neck. Her arms & hands are very well formed. She told Lady Guilford that she (Herself) was not educated for this country. She is very chearful & familiar, but it is necessary to be upon guard against this, as any incautious familiarity in return wd. be liable to sudden rejection.—

The Duke and Wilkie

April 25.—Smirke mentioned that the day before Wilkie opened His Exhibition for a private view to many, the Duke of Gloucester had a private view of it & Wilkie recd. Him in form. On His going away, when below stairs He stopped & opened His purse, & delivered a note to an attendant to carry to Wilkie, who hesitated to receive it, but the attendant sd. He had the Duke's command to deliver it to Him. Wilkie then took it and on opening it proved to be a *one* pound note, an extraordinary specimen of the Duke's mode of thinking.

CHAPTER XXVI

1812

A Great Debate

April 26.—Mr. Long's I dined at.—We dined abt. ¾ past 7.—Mr. C. Long spoke of the late debate in the House of Commons on the Catholic question. Mr. Grattan was the first speaker but did not speak so well as He did formerly.—Lord Binning spoke well. Mr. Perceval spoke an Hour and quarter. His talents [are] great always ready upon every subject and most acute. Mr. Canning rose at four oClock in the morning and spoke an Hour and a Half very eloquently. His Speeches are studied but when He delivers them He plays with His subject, and involves matter which has arisen in the course of the debate. He is, said Mr. Long, the most eloquent of all the Speakers in the House.—Mr. Long then gave His opinion That as the Catholic question now stands would the Catholics allow to the King the *Veto* it would be carried, otherwise not.—Ireland He sd, was the country for a Pope.

He spoke of Lord Grenville who, He said, Has by His inconsistency lost that respect which was formerly attached to His character.—Lord Grey, He added, has been consistent.—He mentioned the subject of Lord Castlereagh and Mr. Canning having quitted the Administration. He said it was caused by the ambition of Canning who aspired to be Prime Minister and was desirous to obtain the removal of Lord Castlereagh in order to have one of His own friends admitted into the Cabinet. This conduct has sunk Him in the opinion of both parties, " but eventually ", sd. Mr. Long, " He will obtain His object ".—

He spoke of the Duke of York's appetite as being monstrous, and of His perpetually talking. In the latter respect the Duke of Cambridge goes beyond Him for in company His tongue is never still.

The Half-Read Club

May 5.—Cadell I dined with.—Gilpin spoke of the *Alfred Club** of which He is a member. It consists of 500 members, who subscribe 5

* Alfred Club, known jocularly as the Half-Read Club, situated in Albemarle-street, was founded in 1808, and a considerable proportion of its members were travellers and men of letters. According

guineas each annually.—This supports the establishment, and allows entertainment at low prices.—Breakfast 1/6d.

Perceval Assassination

May 11.—On our return from L. Coxe's we were told that Lawrence, Wilson & Westall had called,—& that Lawrence & Wilson had communicated the Assassination of *Mr. Perceval, Chancellor of the Exchequer,** this afternoon in the passage leading to the House of Commons, by a Man of the name of Bellingham. Lawrence left a newspaper containing these particulars. This dreadful act engrossed our thoughts the remainder of the evening.

May 12.—Miss Harrison of Cheadle called today. She was on a visit to Mrs. Vivian of Lincolns Inn fields. Mr. Vivian was yesterday with Mr. Perceval two Hours, and came home late to dinner. He mentioned this at table & sd. He was much fatigued, and remarked on Mr. Perceval having then to go to the House of Commons to attend to the business carrying on there. He then spoke of Mr. Perceval's good qualities & proposed to drink His health at which time a Servant came in to mention that Mr. Perceval had been shot. Mrs. Vivian fell into Hysterics. In the evening Mr. & Mrs. Vivian & Miss Harrison went to their country House a few miles from town.—Mr. Vivian mentioned that Mr. Perceval had told him that a gentleman was deputed to wait upon Him & to offer him the *Premiership*, which being made known to Mrs. Perceval she came into the room and conjured him not to accept it. The gentleman deputed, said "The good of His country requires it,"—on which she shed tears & replied "Then my Children will be sacrificed," meaning, it is supposed that His Constitution could not stand the fatigues of office & Parliamentary duties, and that she & Her family should lose him.

Bob [Farington's brother] I dined with.—It was mentioned that the Stocks rose one per cent upon the news of Mr. Perceval's death, not upon any explained ground, but upon a notion of some change of a political kind.—

The Duke of Roxburgh

May 21.—Hayes called. He told [me] that Sir James Innes-Kerr who has obtained the title of Duke of Roxburgh is 76 years old. His wife, stepdaughter to Valentine Green,† is 28 or 9 years old. The estates which He obtained with the Title are abt. £37000 a year. The expence of carrying

to Lord Byron, who was a member, "it was pleasant, a little too sober and literary, and bored with [William] Sotheby [the poet] and [Sir] Francis d'Ivernois [Genovese refugee, and author of *A History of French Finance*]; but one met Rich, and Ward, and Valentia, and many other pleasant or known people, and it was, in the whole, a decent resource in a rainy day, in a dearth of parties, or Parliament, or in an empty season." In 1855 it was amalgamated with the Oriental Club, Hanover-square.

* Perceval was Prime Minister when Bellingham shot him.

† Valentine Green, A.R.A., mezzotint engraver.

on the Suit in the House of Lords amounted to £50,000.—Some of those who contested with Him for the title have been ruined by the expence.*—

Nollekens and the Mask

May 23.—Nollekens told me that on the morning after Mr. Perceval was assassinated the Revd. Mr. Long called upon Him from His Brother Mr. Charles Long, Paymaster of the Forces, to desire Him to take a cast from the face of Mr. Perceval provided the family wd. consent to it. Mr. Long then made application to Lord Arden and they agreed to it.—Nollekens then went to Mr. Perceval's apartments at the Treasury, and was there shewn into a room where He saw the body of Mr. Perceval laid upon a table, with His cloaths on and just as He was when assassinated, the Coroner's inquest not having finished their investigation. He took a cast from the face and that very successfully. He looked at the *wound* made by the Pistol Bullet fired by Bellingham, it was about 3 inches above the *left pap*.—Mr. Perceval's face had a slight cut upon the cheek & lip caused by His falling.

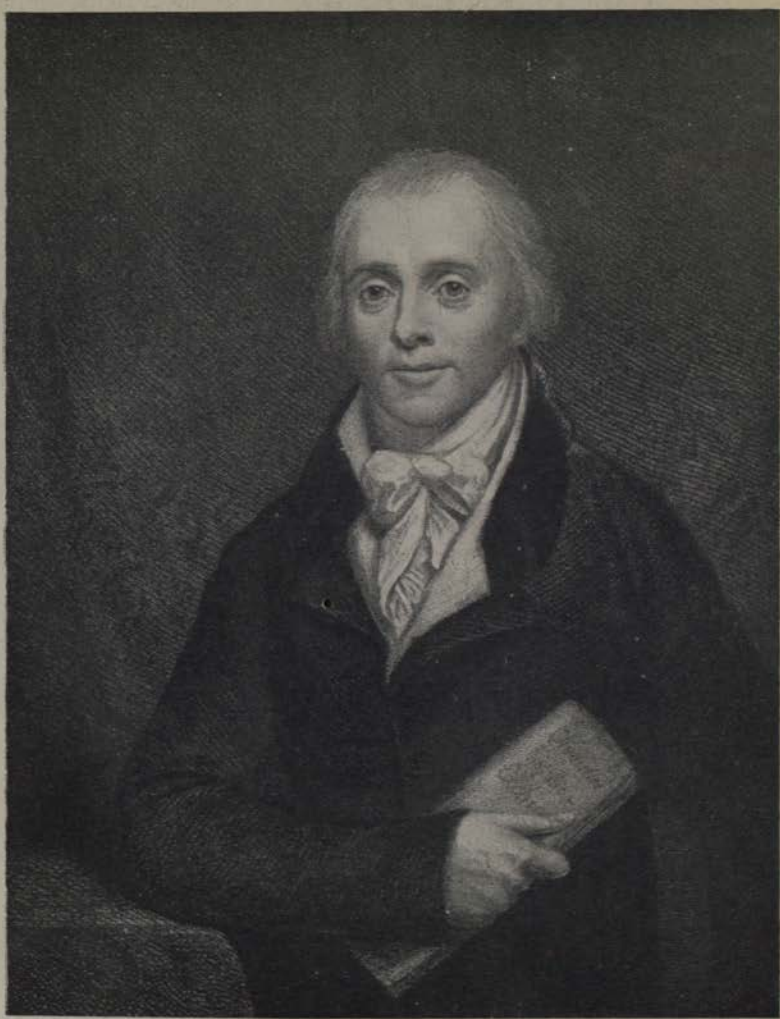
While Nollekens remained there He saw Lord Arden who objected to His taking away the Cast till Nollekens shewed Him that it would be better that He shd. take it away in order to make it more fit to be viewed. Every day numbers of persons call to see the Cast,—Noblemen, Ladies—Gentlemen, and many are much affected when viewing it.—He has already had orders for 3 or 4 marble busts to be made from it.—

Nollekens mentioned to me that when the Princess Amelia died Mr. Tyrwhit came to Him from the Prince of Wales, and desired Him to go with Him to Windsor to take a Cast of the face of the Princess. They accordingly set off in a Chaise at 8 oClock at night & got to Windsor abt. Eleven.—Upon application being made to take a Cast, a delay took place & that night and the next some Ladies who were about the Princess, and as He understood in consequence of their representing that it would not be desireable to take the proposed Cast on acct. of the great alteration in the countenance of the Princess caused by a long indisposition it was determined that no Cast should be taken.—This was communicated to Nollekens and He was requested to make a charge for His time & expences. Accordingly He charged 5 guineas for His time & the expence of His chaise to return.—

Eating and Drinking

Tresham spoke of Carlisle, the Surgeon, as being one of the strong advocates against drinking wine, yet with respect to *eating* is intemperate to excess. After having indulged to the utmost at a dinner of luxuries He will by way of desert eat a broiled Hering or two with mustard & with all this having only drank water will gravely exclaim against temperate eaters who drink a few glasses of wine.—

* See Burke's *Peerage*.



RIGHT HON. SPENCER PERCEVAL, PRIME MINISTER WHO WAS ASSASSINATED

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CHAPTER XXVII

1812

The King was Cheerful

Lord Wellesley

May 26.—West spoke of Lawrence & thought He acted impoliticly in not associating in some degree with members of the Academy, the *Junior* part, and sd. He found that there was a spirit rising against Him. He added " He shd. look forward to what might happen in case of my death, were it now to happen He [Lawrence] wd. not have the least chance of being elected President."

May 27.—Dr. Monro* I dined with.—Edridge† mentioned many particulars of Lord Wellesley, who, He said, sat to Him yesterday afternoon for His Portrait. His Lordship talked of Political matters, said He had been with the Prince Regent 2 Hours the day before, spoke with irritation against the present Ministry viz :* Lords Liverpool, Eldon, &c. & said that should they form an Administration among themselves He wd. give them a trimming.—While He was with Edridge one of His mistresses came to Him, a pretty woman, but very vulgar in Her language.—

The King Cheerful

May 29.—Dr. Monro told me on Wednesday last that He did not think the King would ever recover. He described His Majesty to be very cheerful, that He passes His time in talking sometimes to Himself and sometimes to those about Him, & in playing upon a Harpsichord in an irregular manner. " He is " said Doctor Monro, " A clever man, has a great deal of knowledge and observation, and appears to me to have abilities fully equal to the duties of His station. The general opinion of His capacity is below what He is entitled to, which has probably been owing to that hurried manner which has always been manifest in Him. In His present unhappy state He never forgets that He is a King."—

The Regent's Deputy

June 5.—Lysons called. He told me that after much delay & difficulty an Administration was forming & that Lord Moira was deputed by the

* Alienist doctor and early patron of Turner. See previous vols.

† Henry Edridge, A.R.A.

Prince Regent for that purpose. That Lord Sidmouth had effected a reconciliation between Lord Castlereagh & Mr. Canning. That the new administration wd. be formed from a list as follows, Lord Moira, Lord Erskine,—The Duke of Norfolk,—Sheridan, Canning, and some of the members of the late Administration. He said that He had been told by a friend of the Duke of Norfolk that the Duke is not inclined to the Grenville family thinking that they are monopolizers of power & desire to be Dictators.—

An Entertaining K.C.

June 7.—Jekyll* (King's Council) was very entertaining telling us many stories; some anecdotes of Monsr. Calonne, ci-devant the French Minister of Finance under Louis 16th.—He sd. Calonne had an enlarged mind and was a real lover of the Fine Arts. Upon this subject (the Arts) He observed that there had never been an *English Minister* who had any sense or feeling of the fine arts, as not one of them had manifested it by any disposition to encourage them.—He raised a laugh by saying that the Lord Mayor of London & the Aldermen had shewn more of the spirit of *Mecenas* than any of our Ministers. They had decided in favour of a model made by *Chantrey*, a comparatively unknown artist, for a public work, and after expressing their knowledge of the high price which *Carian Marble* now bore had informed him that they wd. purchase for Him a block sufficient for His purpose & wd. pay him suitably for His work which He wd. thereby be enabled to execute witht. difficulty.—Chantrey, He sd. was 7 years ago a *picture cleaner*. He passed some part of His time in making drawings of various kinds but found He shd. not succeed. He then began to Model, & in a time exhibited His works, & is now a noticed Artist.—

Jekyll spoke of the late *Mr. Gibbon*, the Historian. He said Gibbon was remarkably correct in His expression but rather pedantick in manner. His death was occasioned by an inflammation on the neck of the bladder on which a fever supervened which carried Him off.—He had long laboured under a rupture of the intestines which had increased to an enormous size and gradually by its weight had drawn the intestines into the Scrotum & forced the stomach downwards. Notwithstanding this inversion of the order of those parts He appeared to suffer nothing but inconvenience from the size of the rupture and lived witht. apprehension, eating & drinking luxuriously.

Haydon Astonished

June 13.—Constable called & told me that the Committee of the British Institution had adjudged the Premiums for Historical Painting as follows, viz :—

Not to give the first Premium of 300 guineas or the Second Premium

* Joseph Jekyll, M.P., F.R.S., wit and politician. See Index, Vol. III., of *Diary*.

of 200 guineas. But to give 100 guineas to *Joseph* for His picture, and to Haydon, for His *Macbeth*,—and the other candidates 30 guineas each, not as a *Premium*, but as a compensation for the expense of the *Frame*.

He said Haydon's* astonishment at this decission was extreme. He had when He presented His picture full confidence that He shd. obtain the first Premium 300 guineas & that He shd. sell His picture for 500 guineas.—This disappointment will be attended with difficulties to Him as He had been employed 2 years on the picture and had incurred expenses.

A Triumphant Majority

Lady Mary Lowther I called on & found Her much altered owing to her late indisposition, a complaint in the Liver. She spoke of the triumphant majority of 125 obtained in the House of Commons on Thursday night last, on the question proposed by Lord Milton for again addressing the Prince Regent to form a more efficient administration. She sd. it was a great disappointment to Lords Grey & Grenville who expected to be able to tie the Prince Regent " Hand & foot " and posess the government uncontrolled.—She mentioned that Lord Derby since He went into Lancashire in consequence of the riots had written to His friends in London stating that He had found the disturbances among the people did not originate in the *distress of trade*, or the *Orders of Council*, but in the inflammatory speeches made in Parliament & by the Demagogues (Waithman & Co.).

A Colonel's Income

June 16.—Lieutenant Coll. Carey† called upon me. He returned from Bengal a few weeks since. It is abt. 5 years since He left England with His Father in Law General Hewit, who went to Bengal [as] Commander in Chief.—Genl. Hewit now resides at a House near Salisbury, & being upwards of 60 years old does not wish for further employment. He has a Regiment.—Coll. Carey [said] a Regiment of Infantry produces a profit to the Colonel of it from 800 to £1000 a year, a Regiment of Cavalry abt. £1200 a yr.—He stated that a certain sum is allowed by government for the cloathing of a Regiment and when the Regiment has not its full complement of men the profit to the Colonel is in proportion so much greater as there may be fewer men,—an advantage which makes it the interest of the Colonel not to keep up His proper number.—He told me that His Sister, the late wife of General L. Marchant left 9 Children. She died in Child-bed soon after the General arrived in Portugal. When He succeeded to the rank of Major General He was obliged to give up His situation of Deputy Governor of the Royal Military School at Wycombe, which was a great loss to Him.

* See ante, January 10.

† He studied art under Farington.

CHAPTER XXVIII

1812

Mrs. Siddons Quits the Stage

Her Farewell Address

June 19.—Lysons called & told me that Miss Wilkinson* who lives with Mrs. Siddons has the management of Her Theatrical concern for the 29th. inst. the night when she is to *quit the Stage*. It is Her benefit night, & Miss Wilkinson thinks she ought to study Her interest by obtaining advanced prices for seats in the Boxes. Lysons has a Box to hold 13 for which He means to give 10 guineas.—

June 29.—Covent-Garden Theatre I went to, it being the night on which Mrs. Siddons was to take leave of the Stage.—The Play was *Macbeth*.

J. Kemble—Macbeth.
Mrs. Siddons.—Lady Macbeth.
Charles Kemble.—

The House was crowded in an extraordinary manner in every part. Persons of High distinction were in the uppermost Boxes,—Ladies as well as gentlemen.—The performance of Kemble & Mrs. Siddons was most excellent. Both reminded me much of *Garrick*, notwithstanding the difference of features the expressions of their faces brought Him strongly to my mind.—When Mrs. Siddons walked off the stage in Her last scene, where she appears as walking in her sleep, there was a long continued burst of applause, which caused Kemble &c. to conclude that it was the wish of the Spectators that the Play should there stop. The Curtain was dropped & much noise was continued. One of the Performers came forward to request to know whether it was the pleasure of the audience that the Play shd. stop or go on.

A Tumult Ensued

A tumult again ensued, which being considered as a sign that the Play shd. stop, some time elapsed till at length the Curtain was drawn up and Mrs. Siddons appeared sitting at a table in Her own character. She was

* Probably a daughter of Tate Wilkinson, actor and manager, who published in 1790 a series of interesting and amusing memoirs.

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MRS. SIDDONS AS "THE TRAGIC MUSE"
By Sir Joshua Reynolds

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dressed in White Sattin and had on a long veil. She arose but it was sometime before she could speak the clapping and other sounds of approbation rendering it impossible for Her to be heard. She curtsied & bowed, & at last there was silence. At 10 oClock precisely she began to speak Her farewell address which took up Eight minutes during which time there was profound silence. Having finished, the loudest claps, &c. followed, & she withdrew bowing & led off by an attendant who advanced for that purpose.—Her address was written by Her nephew, Mr. Twiss.—Her appearance was that of a person distressed & sunk in spirits, but I did not perceive that she shed tears. J. Kemble came on afterwards to ask whether the Play shd. go on?—He wiped His eyes, and appeared to have been weeping.—The Play was not allowed to go on.—

Some of the Audience

In the Box in which I sat I found S. Lysons,—Lawrence,—Mrs. Wolfe,*—Mr. Barnard, His Majestys Librarian, & several other Ladies & Gentlemen. The Duke & Duchess of Bedford.—Lady Hinchingbrooke,† Earl Grey,—Tom Sheridan, &c. were in the Box over the Stage Box on the left Hand.—Mr. [R. B.] Sheridan was in the Orchestra.—The heat of the House was very great. I got away as soon as I could & went to the Bedford Coffee House & Had tea, & sat sometime to become cool.—

Nollekens and the Prince

July 2.—Nollekens I called on. He had been to Cambridge to put up Mr. Pitt's statue in the Senate House. He was there a week & returned a day or two since. He was much feasted and caressed by Heads of Colleges while there.—He is now in His 75th. year,—and was this day to have two sitters for models for Busts, viz.: Lord Charlemont & another.—

He told me the Prince of Wales called upon Him abt. 3 months ago & sat down. Nollekens sd. to Him "Yr. Royal Highness has increased in fullness of face the thickness of two fingers since I modelled yr. face." The Prince smiled & took snuff.—Dr. Baillie was at that time sitting to Nollekens & He reported to Him what He had sd. to the Prince. "Aye," sd. the Doctor, "It is not good flesh."

Dinner at Lord Lonsdale's

July 3.—Lord Lonsdale's I dined at.—We sat down to dinner abt. ½ past 7 oClock.—Mr. Metcalfe,‡ quite blind at 76 or 7 years of age, was

* Wife of Danish Consul.

† Wife of Viscount Hinchingbrooke, afterwards sixth Earl of Sandwich.

‡ Philip Metcalf, merchant and friend of Sir Joshua Reynolds.

very cheerful & conversible. He spoke of our late friend Mr. Malone* and told me that He left as follows,

To each of His 2 Sisters.	£3000.
„ Jephson Junr.	500.
„ James Boswell.	200 and the superintendance of His papers.

Lord Lonsdale led Mr. Metcalfe into the dinner room and at table Mr. M's own servant waited behind His Chair. I remarked that He took His wine freely, certainly more than a pint, after eating heartily and generally. Lord Lowther filled His glass. Rogers, author of *The Pleasures of Memory* who sat next to Him did not drink more than a glass or two, but appeared to eat of high as well as plain dishes. Sir Abraham Hume† was in very good health at 64 or 5 years old at least. He ate & drank like one who did not live by any strict rule, taking several glasses of wine, Madeira, & Champagne at dinner, and Claret afterwards, filling His glass freely.—

Lord Lauderdale and Lord Holland were mentioned as Speakers who never deliver themselves with their full force witht. working themselves up into something *like passion*, which, it was observed, is unlike their natural tempers which are good, particularly Lord Hollands.

The singularities of Lord Stanhope were noticed. I asked Lord Lonsdale "Whether it is believed that there [is] at the bottom a strong feeling to do good, and whether His eccentric manner is an expression of great inward zeal arising from a good principle?" His Lordship replied in the negative, & was supported in that opinion by Mr. Long.

Lord Liverpool was spoken of as posessing an excellent judgment in debate, having always sufficient to say, & never committing Himself. Lord Lonsdale remarked That "He never knew Him to *explain*"—Mr. Long said "He is one of the best tempered men living."—

Lord Lonsdale said He thought Lord Moira had gone through the late business of the negotiation to form an administration in a manner that did Him much credit.—

Sir Vicary Gibbs, late Attorney General & now a judge was mentioned as being the *best Lawyer* of this time, and that it was remarkable He should accept the situation He now holds, but it was thus explained. Sir Vicary is now abt. 60 years [old], and has only one child, a *daughter*, therefore not having the prospect of any Honours He might obtain descending from Him, and not having good Health, these considerations united operated upon Him. By His practice at the Bar before He was Attorney General He made £10,000 a yr, and when Attorney General £12,000. He has been kind to many relations so as to make His accumulation of fortune not so great as might be expected.—

* Edmund Malone, Shakespearean scholar.

† Sir Abraham Hume, art collector.

CHAPTER XXIX

1812

Distinguished and Modest

July 6.—Lord de Dunstanville spoke of Mrs. Buller,* sister to Lady Dunstanville, who died abt. a fortnight since. He said she was a widow in less than 3 years from Her marriage & remained so. Her inclination led her to the study of languages & she acquired critical knowledge of Greek, & translated & commented with distinguished ability. She had, said His Lordship, with all Her knowledge & acquirements nothing of what is so often found among women who have had such pursuits,—she had no affectation,—no despising of Her own Sex, or solicitation for the Society of Men in preference of women, but wd. converse with and enter into the amusements of the latter like one who had no other object.—Her modesty was remarkable; it was a considerable time after I married Her Sister, sd. His Lordship, before I knew the proficiency she had made in learned studies, and when I first mentioned it to Her she blushed like a young person full of innocent modesty. She was abt. 68 years old when she died.—

Benjamin West's Success

July 8.—Hayes† called. He told me that He had ascertained what money had hitherto been raised at the British Institution by their posession of West's picture of "Christ healing the Sick." By subscriptions towards paying for the picture,—by money recd. at the door of the Exhibition room, & by subscriptions for the print upwards of £9,300.—

He spoke of West's great application at this advanced period of His life. He is now painting upon His large picture "Pilate shewing Christ to the Jews." He said that a few days ago West's man told Him that the day before His Master painted from eight oClock in the morning till twelve at night, allowing only short intervals for breakfast & dinner.—

The Cost of Artists' Models

July 12.—J. Lane said *Haydon* sensibly felt the disappointment of not getting the premium offered by the British Institution. He said the

* Daughter of John Hippisley Coxe, of Stoneaston, Somerset.

† E. Hayes, an eminent doctor.

money, £300, wd. have been of great use to Him.—Lane spoke of the great expense of living models necessary for an Historical painter. He said the man model which He now has is a Soldier in the Guards & He pays Him a Shilling an Hour for sitting, & sometimes requires Him for 6 or 8 Hours a day.—To the Academy Female model He pays 9 shillings a day, but He has now one at 4 shillings a day. He repeated what He had before sd. That so great have been His expences to enable Him to proceed in His practice that He has been obliged to live most penuriously in other respects. "I have lived, sd. He, three months successively upon tea & bread & butter only, at my own expense, never having eat animal food but occasionally when invited by some friend to His table." Such are the difficulties of young Artists who have no established support.—

English and Americans

July 13.—Hearne* & Hayes dined with me. We had much conversation on political subjects. Hayes thought the Americans had been ill-used by the English government in pressing their seamen & in other respects. As the *Ord rs in Council* have been rescinded, and apologies made for other complaints against us, He thought the Americans ought now to be content, and shd. they insist upon our giving up our established maritime rights He would maintain those rights against them, as though they may not be altogether defensible upon the ground of strict justice, they are in our peculiar situation necessary for our Safety & independence.—Hearne's sentiments were much less favorable to the Americans.—

Hayes sd. that *Adolphus*, the Council, speaks of Lord Erskine as having been beyond all comparison the first man at the *Bar* in His time, and that He has left none to be compared with him.

Misconception

July 24.—West spoke of America. He said there is a great misconception prevailing in England with respect to the state of that country. The English people are taught to believe, & it is much enforced in our newspapers that in America there are two parties, viz.: an English & a French party, and that all the political contest there arises from these dispositions. This is not a fact, said He, the two parties in America are those who think of nothing but Commerce, opposed to those who wish to make Agriculture the chief object.—The wish of the latter is to leave navigation to other nations, to have others the carriers of the produce of their respective countries & to bring back the produce of America.—He said that eventually a bond of Union wd. be established between England and America which wd. counterbalance the great changes which have & are taking place in Europe.—

* George Hearne, water-colour painter.

Howard called to desire me to attend at a Council on Monday next.—He spoke of the visit of the *Prince Regent* to the Royal Academy Exhibition. He was accompanied by the Dukes of York, & Cumberland.—He staid full two Hours. The *Portraits* principally occupied His attention, & He continually referred to His Catalogue for the names of the Portraits, & remarked upon those which were like. He paid but little attention to fancy pictures, and when going away asked whether *Thompson** had any pictures there, as He had some good Portraits last year. West then pointed to Thompson's picture of *Jupiter* which occupied a Center situation but had not been noticed by His Royal Highness.—He seemed much delighted with a drawing by *Craig*† of a Cook in His shop, and asked who it belonged to.—A guard of Soldiers had been ordered to attend, and [the] floors of the Exhibition rooms were covered with green baize. These marks of respect He appeared to be pleased with.—

Political Characters

August 3.—Lawrence passed the evening with me. He told me that the Marquiss Wellesley sat to Him today, and they talked of Political Characters.—His Lordship did not think there was any of our Statesmen except Mr. Canning that posessed what He would call *eloquence*. He appeared to think that Lord Lauderdale had more ability than Lord Grey. Speaking of *Kemble* having left Covent Garden Theatre, and of young *Betty* having been engaged in His room, He sd. sarcastically "You will have Master Betty at the Head of the Stage, & Lords Liverpool & Castlereagh at the Head of the Ministry."—He did not seem to be of opinion that the Prince Regent has any strong attachments to persons. In a sarcastic way He said, "The Prince has no prejudices of this kind." He said the late Lord Chatham was a greater man than some have thought him to have been, & that He was a man well calculated to have managed the political concerns of this country in times like these had He been now living. He mentioned having in His posession a great curiosity, a speech of Lord Chatham which had been wrote down by some one & afterwards corrected by His Lordship's own hand.—

Lawrence remarked to me that *Vanity* is manifestly the foible of Lord Wellesley; but with this weakness it is evident that He posesses great power of mind which wd. be expressed in proportion as occasion might require an exertion of it. In His manners Lawrence thought Him a well-bred man, who conducted Himself easily and equally, not oppressing with self importance or acting below His situation.—

* Henry Thomson, R.A.

† William Marshall Craig, water-colour painter.

CHAPTER XXX

1812

Lady Holland's Atheist

August 3.—Lawrence spoke to me of the parties at Lord Hollands. Among those who visit at Holland House are some professed *Free-thinkers*, some to the extent of Atheism. This disposition of mind accords with the notions of Lady Holland, who has also many other singularities. A Mr. Allen*, a man educated in the medical line is a constant resident at Lord Holland's, & so declared are His opinions that He is called "Lady Holland's Atheist."—A Sir William Drummond,† who has published a Book for the purpose of proving the relation of *Moses* fallacious is a frequent guest there, as is the Hon. Mr. Ward,‡ who talks in the same way.—Sir William has had access to the table of the Princess of Wales, & once there talked to the Princess Charlotte in a way that she thought so improper as to cause Her to rise which being remarked she said she had heard enough & with a slight courtesy she moved away.—

August 5.—Lawrence came to tea. We talked of accts. recd. from Corunna of Lord Wellington having defeated the French General, Marmont, near Salamanca.—We talked of the Character of Buonaparte, & both were of opinion that the tide might turn against Him.—The late Mr. Lock said of Him, that "*His Ambition had extent*, but *not height*," meaning that He desired to posess the world, so insatiable was His ambition for conquest, but He had no feeling for dignity of mind,—being capable of committing the most atrocious acts from the basest motives.—

Seringapatam

August 9.—Lord Wellesley told Lawrence that before the Storming of *Seringapatam*, His Brother Sir Arthur Wellesley, now Lord Wellington, discouraged the proposal to storm the place thinking it wd. not succeed; and Genl. Harris, who as Commander in Chief had the principal credit in the

* Dr. John Allen (1771-1843), politician and historical writer. Allen, who had a room of his own at Holland House, was described by Lord Macaulay as "A man of vast information and great conversational powers," and other eminent men referred to the Scot in laudatory terms.

† Scholar and diplomatist (1770?-1828), author of *Œdipus Judaicus*, 1811.

‡ John William Ward, afterwards first Earl of Dudley.

business, & great wealth from the success, absolutely despaired of the attempt and had little or nothing to do with it. In a Council of Officers, there were others however, who were confident of success & their opinions carried the measure.—

Lord Wellesley

August 12.—Lawrence came to tea. Lord Wellesley (Marquiss) sat to Him today. They had much conversation. His Lordship spoke of His Old friend Lord Grenville, who, He said, was for sometime, considered the best Speaker in the House of Lords. He was generally extremely well acquainted with His subject. His fault in speaking has been going too much into *detail*, which often made His speeches tedious, and by not confining Himself to a statement & enforcement of the principal points of His subject, He did not impress on the minds of those who heard him that which He attempted to do, & they went away lost in the quantity of particulars which He had detailed.—He said Lord Grenville had both wit & imagination, but this was not much manifested in His Parliamentary speeches.—

Style in Writing

Lord Wellesley spoke of style in writing, and said in His opinion the finest style in the English language was to be found in the *Common Prayer Book of our Religion.* He then repeated some passages as exemplifications, and among them this from the *Litany*, "*From lightning and tempest, from Plague, pestilence and famine; from battle, and murder and from sudden death,*"—as a specimen of that fine part of the service. Lawrence said, that whilst His Lordship was repeating the passages which He quoted He was so much affected that His eyes were full of tears.

I could not but remark to Lawrence how extraordinary it seemed that being so sensible as His Lordship appears to be of the beauty and force of these admirable compositions and their purport He should be able to endure to live in a manner so opposite to the duties inculcated.—

He spoke of the present state of the War in Spain, & said He had no doubt of Lord Wellington (His Brother) having gained a victory over Marmont, but with this advantage He still considered the prospect to be unfavourable. He complained of the Ministry, not having given to Lord Wellington [? men] to enable Him to avail Himself of any advantage He might gain, and desired Lawrence to mark His words when He said that "*The affairs of the Peninsula (Spain) would end badly.*"

Lord Wellesley has been separated from Lady Wellesley several years, by an amicable agreement. She resides in Grosvenor Square, & with Her their Children. His Lordship in London lives at [Apsley] House, Piccadilly, & in the country at Grove-Lodge near Dorking in Surrey, where He has a mistress publickly known as such.—

Judicial Characters

August 13.—Hayes called. He spoke of some of the Judicial Characters, as reported to Him by Adolphus, the Council. Lord Ellenborough is a voluptuary, remarkable for indulging Himself in eating of High dishes & rich food, and that in great quantity. He also drinks freely both abroad and at Home. He is an entertaining companion at table, full of anecdote & information.—He is not much liked by the Lawyers in His Judicial capacity; He often becomes warm in temper in that situation.

Sir Willm. Grant (Master of the Rolls) is remarkable for His judgment in selecting the principal points of the arguments of Council, and neglecting all the inferior matter, for bringing these together and deciding with clearness upon them. Dr. Latham, the Physician, told Hayes, that Sir Willm. Grant, when a young man, was in Canada, at Quebec, in a Military character, during the American War, and when Quebec was besieged by the Americans, the Governor was at one time in a dispirited state, but was urged by Grant to exertion & successfully, Grant being very active in the service.

Wellington's Victory

August 15.—At noon I recd. a note from J. Sanders,* from His Office, Spring-Gardens, informing me that "a Telegraphic message had just been recd. at the Admiralty, stating that Lord Clinton had arrived at Plymouth, with the news from Lord Wellington of a great victory; the loss of the enemy very great, ours also great." Soon after I recd. a note from Lawrence, [and] at the end of it,—"20,000 killed, wounded and Prisoners. Marmont taken, with the loss of an arm;—Bonnet killed.—"

"Poor Marshal Beresford, and my amiable and worthy General Cole."

* An architect.

CHAPTER XXXI

1812

In East Anglia

August 15.—This evening I left London & proceeded to Norwich and to Cromer where I remained about three weeks and from thence I crossed the country to Derbyshire where (in various parts of that County) I remained several weeks, and from thence I passed to Coleorton in Leicestershire the seat of Sir George Beaumont Bart, and continued there till the 30th. of October and on the 31st. of that month I arrived in London having been absent exactly Eleven weeks.—The Diary I kept in a separate book contains the particulars of this excursion.

August 16.—We left the Golden Cross Inn at Seven oClock precisely and drove to the Swan Inn, Lad Lane, Cheapside, and there remained till near Eight oClock, when, with several other Coaches from that place, we proceeded to Lombard street, where we again stopped a little time for the Mail to be delivered from the Post Office. A Passenger must allow an hour from the time He gets into the Coach before He will feel that He is quitting London; but from the time of receiving the Mail, He experiences no further delay, but proceeds with rapidity, and with such certainty as to time, that except in extraordinary cases only, arising from bad weather, He may reckon upon being at the end of His journey at the time specified at the Office where places are taken. I was told that the Coach would arrive at Norwich at Half past Eleven oClock the next morning and we got to the Angel Inn in that town at Thirty five minutes after that Hour.—

The distance from London to Norwich is One Hundred and Eleven miles which we went in fifteen Hours and Thirty five minutes, which is more than Seven miles an Hour; and as we were allowed abt. Half an Hour for breakfast at Thetford, it may be reckoned that we travelled at the rate of near eight miles an Hour.—

The People's Joy

It happened that I was the only inside Passenger which afforded me great convenience as I had to travel throughout the night. We reached

Newmarket at four oClock in the morning, where we changed our Coachman and guard. Our next stage was St. Edmundsbury, & the second stage was to Thetford, Here we breakfasted at half past Six oClock, and during our stay, I had the pleasure of communicating to several persons the account received in London of Lord Clinton's arrival at Plymouth from the Army in Spain with dispatches from Lord Wellington containing the particulars of a glorious victory obtained over Marshal Marmont, Commander-in-Chief of what was called "The Army of Portugal." Reports of a victory had for sometime been received from different parts of the Spanish coast, but the interval before Lord Clinton's arrival having been protracted beyond expectation anxiety and doubt of the truth of the reports began to operate, and some of the Opposition newspapers were much disposed to discredit them. The Joy of the people was increased by this cheering relief from suspense.

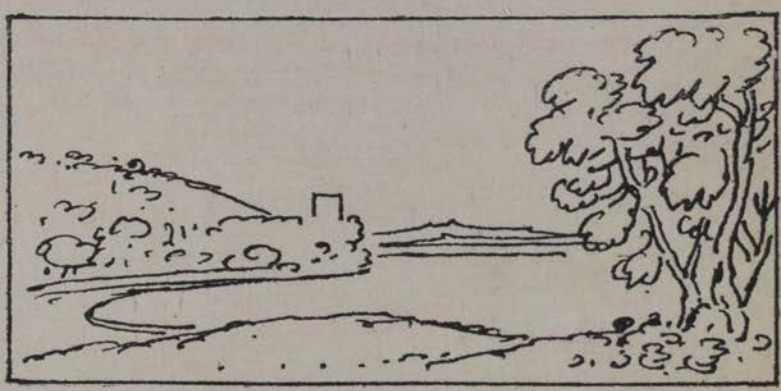
The English Montpelier

From St. Edmundsbury to Thetford I had been accompanied by a Clergyman who gave me some account of the former town. He said "St. Edmundsbury had been called 'The Montpellier of England,' from its fine air, and dry soil, and except in particular cases is a most healthy situation. The exceptions are where the constitution labours under complaints of an asthmatick kind, or where there is a tendency to consumption, in such cases the air is too keen." He spoke of the Society of the place as being genteel and sociable.—

From Thetford we proceeded to Wymondham where we changed Horses. Here, again, I had the pleasure of announcing Lord Wellington's victory. Some of my words caught the ear of a very respectable looking man, a Quaker, which caused Him to address me requesting to know whether anything had been received from Spain to confirm the report of the victory. He appeared to be filled with pleasure when I related to Him the accounts which had been received, & that Lord Clinton had arrived with dispatches.—

Wilson Landscapes

From Wymondam (Windam), to Norwich was our last stage. We arrived at the Angel Inn in the market place at the time I have mentioned. On my quitting the Coach I was addressed by a person who told me His name was *Coppinge*, that He had heard from my relation, Mr. Hamond that I was expected at Norwich, and that He was desirous to shew me & to have my opinion of some pictures, landscapes by Wilson. After changing my dress I accompanied Him to His House, where we were joined by another person, Mr. Sprat, who had been mentioned to me by Mr. Hamond. I found in Mr. Coppinge's posession a landscape a three-quarter in size painted by Wilson, for the late Lieutenant Governor of Landguard Fort,



SKETCHES BY FARINGTON OF PAINTINGS BY RICHARD WILSON

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Mr. Singleton, who paid Wilson for this, and another picture of the same size 50 guineas. After Mr. Singleton's death His collection of pictures was sold at Christie's in Pallmall, and there Mr. Coppinge paid for this picture 120 guineas.—

Composition of this picture. The effect, an evening. The general Colour of the picture of rather a greenish tone, and weaker than those which were painted in His best manner; but it had breadth, and was touched with great spirit. The orb of the Sun was decidedly expressed behind the distant building on the Hill.

The next picture he shewed me was painted & sold by Wilson to Sir Peter Leicester, Father of the present Sir John Leicester, who sold it to Mr. Coppinge. It was painted at an earlier period than the picture before mentioned.

The Composition of the picture. The general colour of the picture very agreeable, the distance light & silvery, something like *Mompert.* The effect daytime. Both the pictures were in good preservation. This was of a long form, and less than the other.—

He shewed me a third picture by Wilson, or rather a sketch in colours; of a small size; a study, the effect an evening Sun with the dust rising. This sketch belonged to John Richards, late Secretary to the Royal Academy. At the sale of His effects it was bought by a dealer in pictures for eleven guineas. He sold it to Mr. Coppinge for 30 guineas.—

Mr. Coppinge produced another picture which He said, had been supposed to have been painted by Wilson. I told Him it was a mistake, and that it was painted by the late Wm. Hodges, R.A., who was pupil to Wilson. He expressed much pleasure in having all doubt respecting it done away by the information I gave Him, and should not value the picture less than He had before done. He then desired to shew me a picture which was in another room, about which He said there was a similar doubt.

Farington's Surprise

On seeing it I was greatly surprised to find it a picture of my own painting, which *I painted & exhibited in the year 1773 at the Great room in the Strand* (now the Lyceum) *which then belonged to the Incorporated Society of Artists of Great Britain of which I was a member.* I have no recollection how it went from my hands, and had long supposed it to have been destroyed. I composed it to introduce the figures of *Orlando and Oliver,* from Shakespeare's play of "As you like it."—Mr. Coppinge had placed the picture in the Center of the room, and on Hinges for turning it to the best light. He expressed himself to be much gratified by my mentioning these particulars.—

Long as my intercourse with Artists and Amateurs has been, I have not met with anyone who appeared to be more devoted to works of art and to have more genuine pleasure from contemplating them.

A Melancholy Tale

He said He had lately undergone a severe trial. His wife, who, like himself, was passionately fond of pictures, and herself copied several with some ingenuity, was, about a year and a Half since, affected in Her mind so as to threaten approaching insanity. My distress, said He, was excessive. I had to bear the grief I felt on seeing Her alarming state, and to do all in my power to prevent other people from noticing it.—After sometime Her case became desperate, and it then was a matter of duty, and of necessity, to place Her under the care of persons who make it a business to receive those who are in this unhappy state. After suffering many changes of from high to low spirits Her constitution became much weakened, and she died about a month ago. I had determined, said He, to have Her brought back to my own House, that she might be under my own eye, as she had received no relief elsewhere, but all is now over."

Whilst I listened to this melancholy tale I felt an increasing respect for the person who related it. His affection for His deceased Wife was manifest, a mixture of love and compassion. He told me that during the time His mind was deeply affected, He had found His greatest relief in retiring to His room and placing His pictures before Him, and, for a long time together, contemplating the beauties He saw in them.—

Men in Trade

It might surprise many were they told after such a relation of so much tenderness, of attachment, and it may be said, refinement of taste, that Mr. Coppinge is a man in trade, a House-painter and Glazier. His whole appearance, however, corresponded with His sentiments, and His manners were proper for any Society.—Mr. Sprat is a Coachmaker at Norwich, and very much a lover of the arts. He shewed me several pictures which He had collected, the works of modern artists.

CHAPTER XXXII

1812

East Anglia

Farington's Mother-in-law

August 16.—On my arrival at Norwich I received a message from my relation, Mrs. Hamond desiring me to fix an Hour for dining with Her. This being settled I waited upon Her at Half-past three oClock, and had the pleasure to find Her well, chearful, and very agreeably companionable, at Eighty years of age she had lost nothing of Her mental faculties, and Her attention to every point of civility was unremitting. We had much conversation relating to our friends and acquaintance. She had in her posession a portrait of Her Father, Dr. Offley, who was an eminent Physician of Norwich, and said that He was of a Cheshire family. I remarked to Her the extraordinary family likeness to this picture visible in the countenances of all the descendants of Her Father that I have personally known. I never saw any other instance that I could compare with it. She said she had bequeathed the picture to Her niece Mrs. Burroughs of Offley Place, Hertfordshire, to be preserved in that family.

Lord Walpole's Marriage

She spoke of the marriage of Lord Walpole eldest Son to the Earl of Orford. He had been for sometime attached to Miss Fawkener daughter and co-heiress of the late William Fawkener, Clerk to the Privy Council. Lord Orford disapproved His choice. On Lord Walpole being recently appointed Secretary of Embassy to Lord Cathcart on His mission to Russia, He (Lord Walpole) made an offer to His Father to postpone marrying Miss Fawkener till after His return from Russia provided Lord Orford wd. then give His consent to it, otherwise He wd. marry Her before He left England. This proposal not being complied with the marriage took place, and His Lordship has since sailed for Russia to join Lord Cathcart.

Norwich from the Castle Hill

We made a long interval between dinner and taking tea, and my recollection of Norwich being very imperfect, Mrs. Hamond walked with me

to the Castle Hill, to the Cathedral Close, and other parts of the town. I was much struck with the universally neat appearance of the Houses, and with the cleanness of the streets, and I do not recollect any town that exhibits a greater show of prosperity, more that of a place inhabited by people in good circumstances. Yet Norwich is said to have suffered more from the decay of its manufactures owing to the want of exportation in these difficult times than any other town in the Kingdom, and it has been lately proved that in consequence of the want of trade the population has lessened considerably within the last ten years.—

The view from the Castle Hill is very pleasing, and commands all the principal features of the City and its suburbs as in a Panorama from a circular walk which passes round the Castle. While on this station we were cheered by the ringing of Bells at most of the Churches to honour the victory obtained by Lord Wellington.—

Norwich is situated upon the slope of a Hill. The upper part of the town is very considerably elevated above the lower part where the Cathedral stands. The tower and spire of this noble Gothic structure will attract the attention of every one who has taste for beauty of form and just proportions.—This City has the advantage of a river which is navigable for Barges, which bring from Yarmouth Coals and other necessary articles.—Having compleated our walk I drank tea with Mrs. Hamond, and at an early Hour I retired to my Inn for that rest which I began to want.

A Pathetic Story

August 17.—Mrs. Hamond came to me whilst I was at breakfast, and I went with Her to Miss Coe's Boarding School to see Mrs. Stothard, widow of Major Stothard of the Sixth Regiment of Dragoons who died on the 11th. of last June in consequence of a fall from His Horse by which His skull was fractured. His head was trepanned, and for some days there was hope of His recovery, but excessive drowsiness came on a symptom that indicated an injury done to the Brain. He survived the accident Eleven days, and at times had been so far sensible as to sign a resignation of His Commission, which was obtained from Him by His Brother Officers in hope of having the leave of the Commander-in-Chief to dispose of it for the benefit of His family. At the time of His death He was stationed at Limerick in Ireland, but His wife and children were at Walmer in Kent which sometime before had been His quarter. Mrs. Stothard shewed me many letters written whilst His fate was uncertain by Officers, and female friends informing Her of His state. They all expressed the utmost interest for Her and the greatest respect for Him. When He died Her situation was deplorable. She had four children, and was without a shilling. On the contrary there were many debts due at Walmer. In this destitute state she was assisted by friends to an extent beyond all expectation and in various ways in a manner which does honour to our nature. Her case

had been represented to the Duke of Richmond, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, with such effect and also to the Duke of York, Commander in Chief, that an arrangement was made as follows,

"The Duke of York could not in justice to the service allow of the sale of a Commission upon a *death*-bed *resignation*, but He would solicit from the Prince Regent to dispose of a Captain's Commission, for Her benefit as soon as an opportunity should offer. This might produce to Her £2000 or more; and she would, notwithstanding, be entitled to the Pension of a widow of a *Major*, 50 or £60 a year."—

I read a letter written to Her by the Duke of Richmond, & one from Col[l]. Torrens, Secretary to the Commander in Chief containing this information.

In addition to this prospect of future support she shewed me letters from Col[l]. Spicer late of the 12th. Regt. of Dragoons, & now a resident at Richmond, and from Dr. Walsby, a Prebend of Canterbury, both of whom had exerted themselves to procure subscriptions for Her & Her Children. The former had then collected £160, & the latter £120.— Col[l]. Torrens also informed Her that application wd. be made to Lord Palmerston, Secretary at War, for Her Children to be put upon the Compassionate list, for an allowance for their education.

Major Stothard was born in the year 1763. He was esteemed to be an excellent Cavalry Officer. He had a Brother who resides at Northampton & keeps a School there. He has a large family, Eleven Children.—

Mrs. Stothard spoke with much gratitude of the kindness of the people at Walmer. To several they owed money; but all were full of compassion & forbearance. "To our Butcher," said she, "we were indebted to some amount. He has Eleven Children, but so far was He for pressing me from payment, that His wife told me that in my unhappy state they should be content if they should not receive anything."

I was much interested in the whole of this melancholy story. I had known Mrs. Stothard & Her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Randall of Norwich, from the period of Her infancy, and she had been a visitor in my family.

CHAPTER XXXIII

1812

£10,000 a Year

September 5.—Mr. Hamond spoke of the property inherited by Lord Cholmondely from His maternal ancestor, Sir Robert Walpole, Earl of Orford, and said it amounts to £10,000 a year besides the noble mansion, Houghton Hall. He said Lord & Lady Cholmondely are persons of very agreeable tempers and of extremely easy & obliging manners. Sometime since His Lordship had an inflammation in one of His legs and an ulcer formed which alarmed him much. He told Mr. Hamond that in the course of 16 or 18 months during which He was confined the fees of medical persons together amounted to £2700. Lord Cholmondely has only one Son, Lord Malpas, a young man of effeminate manners, not promising much manliness of character.

Madrid Captured

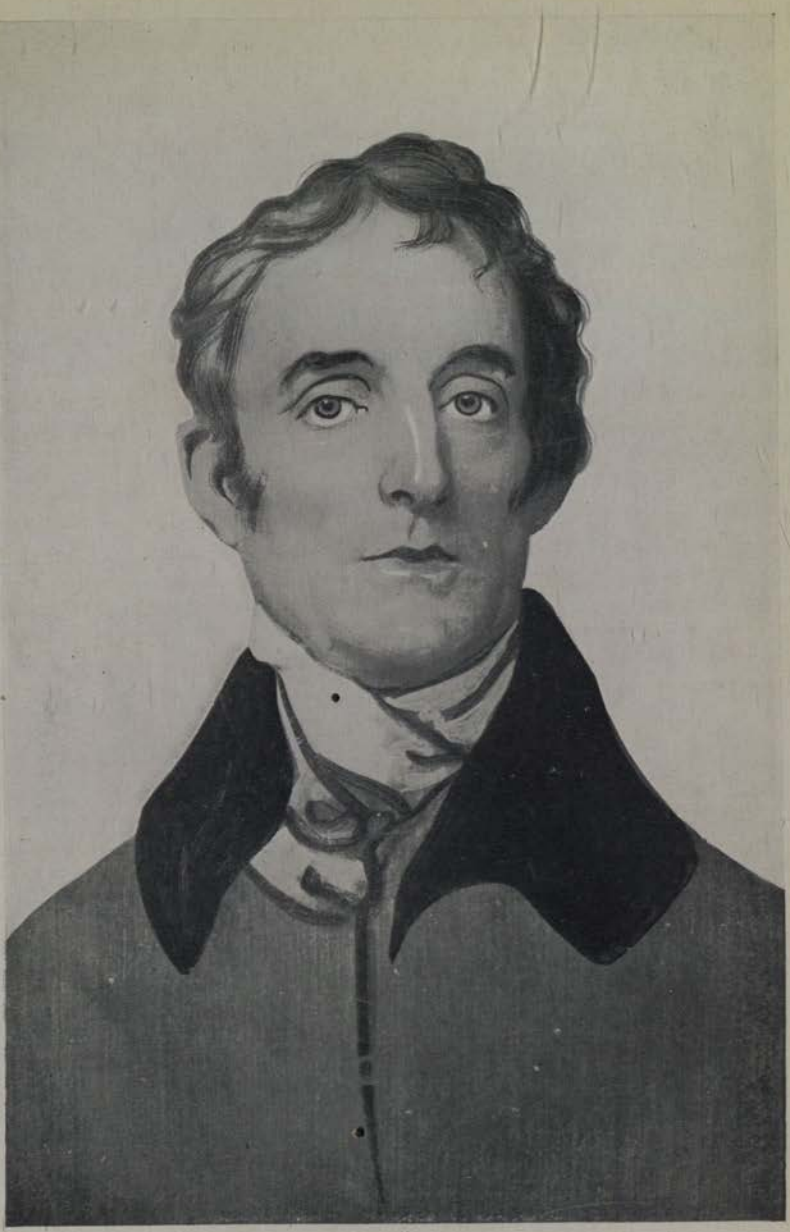
September 6.—This morning a gentleman arrived from Norwich, and brought a printed slip of paper published by the Editor of the *Norfolk Chronicle* to give speedily to the people of Norwich the information He had recd. from a correspondent in one of the Public offices.

"*Norfolk Chronicle*"
"Second Edition"

"MADRID TAKEN
by the
"MARQUISS OF WELLINGTON"

"War Department,
Downing street, Friday, Septr. 4th.

"Dispatches have been received by Earl Bathurst from the Marquiss of Wellington dated the 13th. and 14th. ult, containing the intelligence



THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON
By Sir Thomas Lawrence

To face p. 104

of the Allied Army having entered Madrid, after an inconsiderable resistance on the 12th, and that the Retiro had surrendered by capitulation, on the 14th. with one thousand Seven hundred prisoners.

"In that place there were found 189 pieces of Cannon, the Eagles of the 13th. and 51st regiments, 900 barrels of powder, 20,000 stand of arms, and considerable magazines of clothes, provisions and ammunition.

"No Officer suffered—Joseph Buonaparte was only about a day's march from our Army. The British were received at Madrid with the greatest joy on the part of the Spaniards."

Thus had Lord Wellington obtained posession of the Capital of the Kingdom of Spain, which, four years ago (1808), was in the posession of the French and Buonaparte in an address to the Legislative Assembly declared that by the Christmas following He would have driven the English into the Sea, and that there would not then be a village in Spain in a state of insurrection. Such was the arrogant boasting of the ambitious tyrant.

The acct. of the taking of Madrid I read with the greater satisfaction from the reliance I have on the prudence & consideration as well as great Generalship of Lord Wellington, and fully believing that He foresees how He shall be able to maintain as well as obtain the object He has in view.

Cromer

At Eleven oClock this morning I went to Cromer Church to divine service. It is a large & handsome church, with neat, commodious pews, and altogether such as would not be expected in a small place like Cromer. The arch over the door at the West end is a beautiful piece of Gothic architecture. The steeple is lofty, & at the top is ornamented with much taste below the battlement.—

The Lighthouse

Before dinner I walked with H. Hamond & His children to the Light House and the Telegraph abt. three quarters of a mile from Cromer. The weather was very fine, and the extensive view from this situation was seen to much advantage. Cromer appears to lie in a bottom and over it a long line of Coast, with the woods of Felbrigg the seat of the late Mr. William Windham, celebrated for His oratorical powers in parliament, skirt the Horizon.—We returned to dinner at 4 oClock and in the evening before sunset I again walked to the Light House accompanied by Mrs. Hamond, Miss [Anne] Astley, 2d. daughr. of Sir Jacob Astley, one of the Members for the County of Norfolk, & Miss Molyneux.

We sat sometime in the Light House waiting for the time at which the lamps were to be lighted. The management of the Light House is committed to two elderly women, Sisters, respectable persons, who make it

their habitation and a pattern for all that is clean & neat. They have several small apartments, and have resided here twenty years.—

A little before 7 oClock we ascended to the uppermost part of the Light [House] and saw the reflectors with the Lamps which were prepared to be lighted. This was soon done, & the place became illuminated. The whole machinery keeps perpetually turning, so that each reflector performs a Circle in 3 minutes. The reflectors are so placed that they shew to those who view the light House from a distance a dark side and a light side alternately at certain periods while the machinery is going round, & by this the particular light of *Foulness* as it is called is distinguished from all the others upon this Coast; the Mariner counts the numbers of Light and dark appearances within a certain number of minutes & by that is guided.—The consumption of oil at this Light House may be reckoned on *an average* at 2 gallons each night: in winter 3 gallons; & in Summer much less. The whole machinery is worked by wheels which are not seen, & is wound up like a watch. The whole is a very simple construction.—

A Famous Statesman

September 7.—The weather continuing fine, I passed the whole of this morning in making an excursion with Mr. Hamond to Felbrigg the seat of the late Mr. Windham & to some points on the Coast.—Felbrigg is situated abt. 2 miles from Cromer. The House stands in a Park of considerable extent & well wooded. The entrance front has the appearance of having been built in the reign of James the first.

CHAPTER XXXIV

1812

Windham Habits at Felbrigg

The Library is upstairs, and in a room adjoining to it Mr. Windham always sat when engaged in business or study. When He was last at Felbrigg, which was in the autumn of 1809 He was alone there for about 8 weeks, and had only a few of His family connexions to call upon Him. During this time He slept in a small tent bed put up in a niche in a room, next to His sitting room, for the convenience of it being near the Library. An Old Maid Servant who shewed us the House gave these and many other particulars respecting Him. She said she has gone into the Library at Six oClock in the morning & has found Him there engaged in reading, and that He wd. afterwards return to His bed as His usual time of rising was abt. 8 oClock & He breakfasted about nine. He sat up late at night, till 12 oClock or later.

The servants excepting His footman saw little of Him. She has been in the House with Him a week together witht. seeing Him. "He was (Her expression) very distant to them," but in respect of what He wanted He made no difficulties. He never went out to shoot or to hunt. He was fond of planting, and planted a great deal. After being in His sitting room most of the day, He would towards the evening ride out. His Hour of dining was about Six oClock, but He did not mind that but would make His dinner wait an Hour or two when He was in any way engaged. She said that when He was last at Felbrigg He expressed that it was His intention to live there more than He had been accustomed to do, which had frequently been not more than a week in a year: about five years ago Mrs. Windham was with Him at Felbrigg and they then remained a considerable time and had company with them. Mrs. Windham was much subject to Head-aches which at times affected Her spirits. She has not been at Felbrigg since Mr. Windham's death. To Her He left all His estates and property during Her life.

His Injury

I asked Her whether Mr. Windham ever complained of the injury recd. in His Hip sometime before He was last at Felbrigg from some books

falling upon Him when He was assisting to rescue the property of Mr. Frederick North whose House in London had been on fire? This happened a little time before He was last at Felbrigg. She said He had some stiffness about His Hip, and had consulted Mr. Earle, the Surgeon at Cromer, and that a poultice had been applied.—

Here I shall add that on my return to Cromer I met Mr. Earle & spoke to Him on this subject. He said the servant (the Housekeeper) did not know the cause of the stiffness in Mr. Windham's Hip, as she called it. The fact was that in riding to Holkham (Mr. Coke's) He had chafed off the skin owing to the hardness of the saddle in the part which touched it and an inflammation arose and an abscess, and that He, Mr. Earle, attended Him till it was cured. With respect to the complaint in His Hip or rather in the fleshy part near the Seat Mr. Earle sd. that Mr. Windham had mentioned the circumstance of the Books falling and of His having been bruised but He did it in a slight manner and not as a matter that caused any apprehension in His mind.—

Symptoms of the End

The Housekeeper told me that a few years ago when Mr. Windham was at Felbrigg and alone, while sitting in His study one evening His nose began to bleed, His servant happening to come in desired to know if He could do anything to which Mr. Windham replied in the negative & the Servant left Him. The bleeding, however continued for a long time, and that in so large a quantity as to cause Him to ring the Bell for the Servant; The Housekeeper also then went to Him and asked whether she could do anything. He replied "What wd. you do?" meaning it to be a negative. She answered Him that she had heard that stopping the nostrils with wet rag would do good. The bleeding went on till she was sure there was more than a quart of blood in basins. He then directed His Servant to go to Mr. Earle, the Surgeon, and Mr. Earle *told me as follows.* When He arrived at Felbrigg He found Mr. Windham sitting at a table writing letters, His nose continuing to bleed, and He, (Mr. Earle) was certain that from the quantity of blood which was then in basins and on cloths Mr. Windham must have lost near if not quite two quarts of blood. Mr. Windham said chearfully to Him, "I sent for you at this time (it was then between Eleven and twelve oClock at night) that I might not have occasion to call you out of bed, should the bleeding continue." Mr. Earle sd. that He found immediately that a Blood-vessel in the nose had broke & from it proceeded this issue of blood. On pressing the nose with His fingers He stopped the bleeding, and He applied a large sponge charged with cold water to the top of Mr. Windham's head, and put a plug in the nostril. Mr. Windham had no return of the bleeding, but, said Mr. Earle, this great loss of blood must have impoverished His constitution.

It happened abt. a year & a half before Mr. Windham was last at Felbrigg, which was in the autumn of 1809 and He died June 4th. 1810. Before the operation was performed for the purpose of cutting out what was said by the London Surgeons to be a cancerous substance formed in the part which had been bruised by the fall of the books, had I (sd. Mr. Earle) been [asked] to have given advice [I] should have been against performing the operation, because I should have considered that Mr. Windham was 60 years of age, and what was more that his constitution must have suffered from the bleeding above described.—It is not improbable, added He, that this circumstance might not have been mentioned to the Surgeons in London by Mr. Windham, for He was a man fearless of everything if any purpose was deemed necessary, in such cases He never thought of pain or of danger.—I felt much interested in listening to these particulars of one of the most extraordinary men of His time.—

The House

Felbrigg House is a commodious mansion. The rooms sufficiently spacious and lofty, and wd. be thought by most people to be a very agreeable place for residence, but Mr. Windham did not feel it such, probably from it being too far removed from that intercourse which He always sought & was accustomed to [be] with learned and political men.—

CHAPTER XXXV

1812

At Felbrigg

September 7.—In the Dining room at Felbrigg there are family portraits of the ancestors of Mr. Windham for three or four generations: one or two of them by Sir Peter Lely.—In the drawing room there are—

Both by Scott abt. 6 ft. wide by 3 ft. 4

A view of London Bridge as it was when Houses were built upon it,
a view of The Tower of London, part of London Bridge &
a 3/4 portrait of Mr. Cholmondely, a friend of the late Mr. Windham, by Sr. J. Reynolds.

A Sea piece near 6 feet wide said to be by Vandevelde. The subject is an Engagement between the Dutch & English fleets in which Sir Edwd. Spragge was killed.

Another naval engagement of the same size also sd. to be by Vandevelde.

My opinion is that neither of the above pictures was painted by Vandevelde unless it were supposed that they were painted in His Old age when His powers had failed,—

There are also 2 small pictures sd. to be by the same master but they are placed too high for examination.—A whole length portrait of Mr. Windham's father,—a ½ length portrait of Sir Wm. Paston by Vandyke.—A picture by Both,—another by Rubens,—viz: Achilles dressing in Armour—neither of them originals, as far as I cd. judge at the distance at which I saw them.—

In the room called the Cabinet there are several pictures views at Tivoli & in other parts of Italy painted by G. Baptista Busiri, an artist of whom I never before heard. There is a good deal of skill shewn in the composition of some of these pictures, but they are coldly & drily coloured.—In this room there is a very large picture painted by De Vlieger in 1650 the subject a Naval engagement between the Dutch & Chinese;—also 2 pictures by Houseman.—3 small pictures good copies, I think, rather than originals of Vandevelde.—There are also many small pictures in body water colours, views in Italy by Busiri.

The Housekeeper told us that the furniture which is in this room had been there 70 years. It is crimson flowered damask & still very fresh & handsome.—There are on the Library floor several excellent Bed-chambers, and in them many pictures but of no value except one by Vernet, which however is much craked on the surface.—

September 8.—As my time for leaving Cromer had now arrived, Mr. Philip Hamond this morning offered to take me to Fakenham Common in His Curricle, and from thence to proceed with me to Swaffham where I might be taken up by the Norwich & Lynn Coach on Thursday & proceed through Lynn to Peterborough on my way to Derbyshire.—

September 9.—I breakfasted with P. Hamond & soon after 8 oClock we left Cromer & proceeded in His Curricle through Holt to Fakenham, and from thence to Swaffham, where I became Philip Hamond's guest.

Bishop of Norwich

September 10.—P. Hamond went to High House before breakfast, and I took that repast at G. Hanbury's. The Revd. Mr. Milward of Norwich was with us and spoke of the present Bishop of Norwich, Dr. Bathurst. He said the Bishop was then 67 years old. He was one of Thirty-Six Children which His Father had by different wives. His eldest Son was sent abroad in a Diplomatic capacity, and a few years ago suddenly disappeared while in Germany, and had never been heard of being supposed to have been assassinated or drowned. The Bishop has eight children, & being related to Earl Bathurst might probably have been further promoted had he not taken a line in politics in opposition to the Ministry. He became decidedly an Advocate for *Catholic emancipation*, and in other respects appeared to support the Sectaries. He had always insured to himself great regard from all persons by the benevolence and complying disposition of His mind.—

Northamptonshire Gentlemen

G. Hanbury spoke of the mode of living among the Gentlemen in Northamptonshire, and said there were numbers of them whose expences exceeded their incomes. Northamptonshire being a sporting country it is much visited by gentlemen from other parts of the kingdom, especially from London, and they are hospitably recd. and entertained in an expensive manner by many who can ill afford to follow the example of their more wealthy neighbours. *Claret* is common at their tables. Yet said G. Hanbury all that perhaps you get for thus proceeding to ruin yourselves is a bare slight nod of personal knowledge of you & sometimes not even that if you meet many of these visitors in London.

Wisbech and Peterborough

At 12 oClock I left Swaffham in the Coach which passes daily from Norwich to Lynn; the road excellent & the driving expeditious. We arrived at Lynn, a stage of 14 miles at 2 oClock. Here I dined, & took a place in a coach which goes to Peterborough in which I proceeded at 3 oClock to [Wisbech], the first stage through a country perfectly flat. This town is situated on the banks of a river which the tide reaches powerfully, and many small trading vessels are upon it. The town is of a considerable size & bears some resemblance to the towns in the Low Countries Houses forming a long line on the banks of the river. There is a good Inn, the Rose & Crown, where the people were very civil.—Here we had tea, there being two Ladies with myself passengers;—we then went on to Thorney a small place where the Inn appeared to be an uncomfortable House to stop at longer than to change Horses, but it being dark I could see little of it. Our next stage was to Peterborough where we arrived about half past nine oClock at the Angel Inn where we found the people ready & obliging. The distance from Lynn to Peterborough is thirty nine miles.

Price of Food in Lincoln

My female companions were sociable & we had much conversation. One of them told me that she resided abt. 14 miles from Lincoln, and she spoke of that part of the country as affording provisions at a cheap rate. She stated as follows—

Beef 8 shillings for a stone weight *14* pounds.
Mutton 7d. per pound.
Butter 10d. do. 18 ounces to the pound.
Fowls one shilling & 9d. a couple.
Eggs 3 for a penny.

At Peterborough I saw a newspaper in which was an acct. of Buonaparte having advanced into Russia and taken Smolensko.

September 11.—This morning my companions left me & proceeded to Lincoln, and I passed sometime in viewing the Cathedral & the town.

CHAPTER XXXVI

1812

With Sir George Beaumont at Cole Orton

October 16.—Sir George before dressing came to my Chamber to desire me to go to another room to see a beautiful effect of the Sun rising over a distant Hill.—Till one oClock I was employed on my drawings, and then rode with Sir George to Charlewood Forest abt. 3 miles distant to see some picturesque rocks. On our way He told me that He should have been much inclined to leave His collection of pictures to the public were there a proper place to deposit them in either at the British Museum or the Royal Academy. He foresaw the impossibility of preserving them for any great length of time in a family at least witht. a probability of there being much injury done to them by injudicious cleaning of them by ignorant persons, as had been the case at Hooker in Lancashire (Lord George Cavendish's) and other places, so that at present there are very few pictures by Claude in perfect preservation: the other reason was that from temporary want of money to pay debts or portion Children it might be found convenient to part with such property and the collection would then become scattered.—He also thought that by placing fine pictures at a distance from the metropolis the public were deprived of a high gratification and a means of keeping up good taste.—

Sir George's Successor

He spoke with much satisfaction of His having formed the resolution to reestablish His family at Coleorton, the residence of His Ancestors by building the House which He had now furnished. He said that the rents of His estate had been doubled since He first came into posession, and the disposal of them was entirely in His own power. That, however, He looked to the eldest son* of His first Cousin, Mr. Beaumont of [ ] in Surrey, a Boy abt. 12 yrs. old to be His successor, and accordingly took an interest in His education.—

* George (who became 6th baronet) was the eldest son of William Beaumont, of Great Dunmow, in Essex, and Chartwood in Surrey.

Burning of Moscow

We dined at 5. The newspapers came in abt. that Hour, and our minds had been for a day or two occupied by reflections on the Burning of Moscow by the Russians to prevent Buonaparte from making it a place convenient for Winter quarters. The determined resolution of the Russians to proceed to every extremity in resisting the tyrant excited our admiration accompanied with feelings of sorrow for the sacrifices made by a people faithful to their country.

Half-forgotten Artist

As usual some portion of our conversation turned upon art, and the merits of some deceased artists. Owen was of opinion that the reputation of Barrett as a Landscape painter wd. last longer than that of Loutherburgh. Sir George said that His opinion of Barrett had been lately raised comparatively with what He before thought of Him, on seeing the large pictures painted by Him on the walls of a room at Norbury Park (Mr. Lock's) in Surrey. The drawing of His trees was admirable for taste & freedom, and the characters of various parts of the landscapes very true to nature, in which He excelled Loutherburgh who had great dexterity of hand but little resemblance to nature & yet had sufficient merit to cause His pictures (the best of them) to be preserved as works of great ingenuity.—

A Fraudulent Agent

October 17.—In the Church [at Coleorton] are two monuments to agents of Sir George or His predecessors. One of them to the memory of ..... Boultbee, Father to an Agent who grosly misused Sir Georges property, and became rich by the abuse. After long confiding in this man Sir George was at last apprised of the injustice of His conduct and a long Chancery suit to oblige Him to refund as much as could be proved against Him of His ill-gotten wealth. The late Lord Loughborough (Lord Chancellor) decreed against Boultbee, and Sir George recd. £13,000 which was but a small part of that which Boultbee was believed to have purloined.—

Wordsworth and Scott

In the evening Lady Beaumont read some of Wordsworth's poems. Sir George particularly requested that His "Tintern Abbey" might be read, as being an admirable specimen of Wordsworth's poetical powers. "He is," said Sir George, "as much superior to *Walter Scott* as *Claude* to me in painting.—

Owen told me He had been a month at Lord Ferrers at Staunton Harold 2 or 3 miles from Coleorton employed in painting a portrait of Lord Tamworth son to Lord Ferrers. He said Lord Ferrers is abt. 56 years old, & Lady Ferrers abt. 60. They are both invalids. She is Sister to Mr. Munday of Marketon near Derby & lived with His Lordship some years during the life time of His first wife, & during that period had a daughter by Him that married Mr. Joliffe of Hampshire. Lord Tamworth is son to Lord Ferrers by His first marriage, & married a daughter of Lord Scarsdale.—Lord Ferrers is lame and has been so from His childhood by some accident. His property is now large having been much increased of late years.—

I spoke of Lord Moira taking the title of *Huntingdon* that of His *Maternal* Ancestors especially as He posesses the family estate at Donington 9 miles from Coleorton, but was told that His Lordship will never take that title as it is possible a Claimant of the name of *Hastings* may arise, and indeed there have been persons who have assumed that they were legitimate descendants & entitled to succeed to the peerage. Since Lord Moira came into posession of the estate He has built a large Gothic Mansion at Donington and employed William *Wilkins* as Architect.—

Lord Moira's Pleasure in Society

October 20.—Our conversation this evening [was] upon Characters & Manners. Lord Moira was spoken of as carrying His hospitality at Donnington Castle, 9 miles from Coleorton to a great extreme. While it is the rule at many Houses in the country not to take in the Horses of persons who visit them, He, on the contrary, takes in all, and should the number be greater than there is room for in His Stables, He sends *His own* Horses to an Inn or to other stables to make room for them. While many do not admit more than *one servant* to be in the House with any visitor, and if more than one is brought send Him to an Inn, Lord Moira admits all that are brought. He appears to have great pleasure in being surrounded by Society, but it is remarkable that though He is a ready & in some degree an eloquent speaker in public, His taciturnity when at His own table is such that unless it is to ask a person to drink a glass of wine, He seldom speaks, & will sit for Hours silent, but His manners are courteous in the highest degree.—

The Habit of Silence

Sir George gave another instance of taciturnity in the present Lord St. Asaph* a young man Son to the Earl of Ashburnham. "We were at Ashburnham," said Sir George, "a fortnight the last Summer, and in the course of that time I scarcely heard [him] speak two words of His own

* He died in June, 1813. His sister's name was Elizabeth Sophia.

accord. He sits silent but attends to everything, and when a mistake is made in conversation in the relation of a circumstance would sometimes set it right.—His sister—Lady [ ] Ashburnham, has also this habit of being silent, and it appears to be Hereditary. They are both children of Lord Ashburnham by His first wife, a daughter of the late Marquiss of Bath, this habitual taciturnity is hereditary in that family. The children of Lord Ashburnham by His present wife, a daugr. of Lord Beverley, are quite unlike those thus mentioned being lively and talkative in the degree common to children.—

CHAPTER XXXVII

1812

Cole Orton

Wordsworth's Puerility

After tea Lady Beaumont read some of Wordsworth's poetry of which she is a great admirer. Sir George, however, admitted that Wordsworth's reputation as a poet wd. have stood higher had the two volumes of His poems contained only those which would be generally approved. Many of them are thought to be puerile in their simplicity and these have been dwelt upon by the Critics & published in reviews to the disadvantage of His better works.—

Superior and Inferior People

October 21.—At breakfast we had talk about pride of intercourse. Sir George sd. there was often as much cause given by the inferior as by the superior person for the distance at which they stood to each other. A superior person (in degree) should not be expected to be seeking His inferior, each should be easy and let things take their course. "There is, sd. He, as much pride shown in keeping at a distance from apprehension of being rejected as in rejecting; both are to blame." It was however allowed that there were many persons in high situations in life who never excited apprehensions in the minds of persons of any degree. Lord Lonsdale might be named as such, and the late Earl of Dartmouth,—the late Marquiss of Thomond, were persons of such affability as to make the meeting them a certain pleasure.—

Coleridge as Captain Cuttle

Lady Beaumont told us that Coleridge, the Poet, & author, who she much admires makes it a rule to write the substance of the conversations which He has with any persons who call upon Him and with it observations of their characters. He does not do it so far methodically as to make a regular continuation of what He does in this way, but takes any piece of paper that may be at hand, so that He loses by carelessness much of what He takes the trouble to note down.

The Duchess of Gordon and the Artist

Today I rode with Sir George for two Hours. He spoke of Lawrence & recurred to what the Duchess of Gordon had done abt. 16 years ago. She having asked Sir George what He thought of a picture which Lawrence was then painting of Her daugr. (now the Duchess of Bedford) He made some remarks not entirely approving the picture. These observations she carried to Lawrence & made it a plea for not taking the picture. Sir George manifestly appeared to think this was a circumstance which had dwelt upon Lawrence's mind, but I told Him that it was not a matter likely to have such an effect.

He said Lawrence had greatly improved in the last three years & that His portrait of Major General Stewart was a very complete and fine picture, that He had got the better of much of that metallic appearance which formerly prevailed in his pictures, and which seemed to be owing to His admitting too many lights into His faces; and that on that account He might have derived much advantage from the portrait by* Rembrant which was in His posession and now belongs to Sir George to whom He sold it. Sir George said He should like to know more of Lawrence; that He was a very gentlemanlike & a very clever man.—

Turner's Harmful Influence

In speaking of Lawrence He said that in case of the death of Mr. West He concluded Lawrence wd. be looked to as the most proper person to fill His situation as President of the Royal Academy. He, Owen and Philips, were at the top of those Artists who practise in that line—Thomson comes after them.—He spoke also of Turner who He said had done more harm in misleading the taste than any other artist. At His setting out He painted some pictures, "The Plagues in Egypt," which gave great promise of His becoming an artist of high eminence, but He had fallen into a manner that was neither true or consistent, His distances were sometimes properly finished, but when He came to the foreground it bore no proportion in finishing to the distance beyond it. Calcott, sd. Sir George, is merely a follower of Turner & seems to look at nothing else.

Much harm, added He, has been done by endeavouring to make painting in oil to appear like water colours, by which in attempting to give lightness & clearness the force of oil painting has been lost. Philips thinks Turner the greatest Landscape painter that ever lived, so probably does Owen. I, sd. He, think differently & shall never scruple to express my opinion because I think it is proper so to do when a bad taste is prevailing.

* Of "A Jew Merchant" which Sir George presented to the National Gallery in 1826.

We had some conversation respecting our Constitutions. I told Him that what inconvenience I suffered arose from a disposition to generate acid in the stomach, which caused me to refrain from eating many things likely to produce it. He said His disposition was quite the contrary. He had too little bile, and should be in a Costive state perpetually if He did not take medicine which He has done almost daily for 20 years past. It consists of Aloes & some other articles, made into pills which He takes before dinner or before tea. It was prescribed for Him by Dr. Maclaine of Sudbury, & has been approved by many medical men to whom He has mentioned it. But in addition to this He has at times taken much Calomel and particularly under the direction of Dr. Dick to whom He believes He owes the continuation of His life. It was Dr. Dick who recommended to Him a practise which He continues daily. Every morning He washes Himself from Head to foot, with cold water, part by part, an operation which takes Him about 25 minutes, and He always feels refreshed by it.

A Singular Man

The Revd. Mr. Egerton, Brother to Lord Bridgewater, was spoken of as being a very singular man. He is a prebend of Durham, & now towards 60 years of age. He lately married a young woman at Paris and He now resides there. His relations in England have been much concerned on this account, from an apprehension that a claim to the title of Bridgewater may hereafter be made by a Child of which Mr. Egerton may not be the father.*

* John William Egerton, eighth Earl of Bridgwater, son and heir of John Egerton, Bishop of Durham.

His brother, the Rev. Francis Henry Egerton, ninth and last Earl of Bridgwater, who succeeded him in 1823, was born in November, 1756. He matriculated in 1773, and was a Fellow of All Souls, Prebendary of Durham, Rector of Middle, Salop, and of Whitchurch in the same county.

The story of his marriage in Paris was apparently unknown to the editor of "The Complete Peerage." In any case, it is not referred to in Volume II. of the reissue of that invaluable work, where, on the contrary, it is stated that he died, aged 72, unmarried, at his residence, Hôtel de Noailles, Rue St. Honoré, Paris, on February 11, 1829, and was buried on March 4 at Little Gaddesden, Hertfordshire.

It should be put, however, as evidence against his marriage, that he issued portraits of members of his family, including one inscribed "Sophia Egerton," natural daughter of Francis Henry Egerton, Earl of Bridgwater, educated at Mme. Campan's.

A footnote in the "Complete Peerage" states, that according to a record kept by the Paris police, his house in the French capital was full of cats and dogs, who were dressed as ladies and gentlemen, and taken out in his carriage and fed at his table. Shortly before Lord Bridgwater's death his eccentricity was further illustrated. He filled his garden with rabbits, pigeons and partridges, and cut their wings in order to indulge in the joyous "sport" of "killing a few head of game for his table."

A good scholar and lover of literature, he bequeathed £8,000 for the best work on the "Goodness of God as manifested in the Creation," and bequeathed to the British Museum his important collection known as "The Egerton Manuscripts." Moreover, with this bequest came also to the nation, £12,000, "of which the interest was partly for the Custodian and partly for the augmentation, etc." of the collection.

Owen mentioned that Mr. Baker, son to Mr. Baker late Member for Herts, had married in Italy a daughter of Fagan* a British Artist; that she is accomplished and agreeable, & they now reside in Hertfordshire. Sir Abraham Hume told Owen that He had visited them & found Her a very pleasing & handsome woman.—

* Robert Fagan.

CHAPTER XXXVIII

1812

Cole Orton

The Best Rider in England

We had some conversation about Lord Lowther, son to the Earl of Lonsdale. Lady Lonsdale told Lady Beaumont that when Lord Lowther was eleven or twelve years old it was His Father's wish that He shd. be the best rider in England. He is now more inclined to the Turf than they wish Him to be.—His shy manners have caused Him to be considered a heavy young man, but after He had been a while a Lord of the Admiralty He disclosed more promise of ability than He was at first thought to posess. Mr. Barrow, a Secretary at the Admiralty sd. that Lord Lowther had too mean an opinion of himself.—

October 22.—In the evening we looked over drawings, a Book of Caricatures by Dance,—etchings by the Marchioness of Stafford & other things. We had also conversation. Sir George said that Sir Joseph Banks had spoken to him of Mr. Payne Knight as being the person who of all others regulated Himself the best so as to have as much indulgence of every appetite as His constitution would bear witht. suffering injury from it. He would eat, He wd. drink as far as consideration for His health wd. admit but would never exceed so as to suffer from it,—Mr. Uvedale Price on the contrary sd. Sir George, has not that self command & feels the disadvantage arising from the want of it.—

Fox and the Shortness of Life

Sir George told me that at one of the Royal Academy dinners about a year or two before Charles Fox (the great Political Orator) died, Sir William Scott happened to sit near to Him (Sir George) and Mr. Charles Long and mentioned as follows. That a little time before He had dined at Mr. Payne Knight's & that Charles Fox was there, and in the course of conversation Mr. Fox said that life was too short. Sir Willm. Scott not agreeing with Him, asked "How long then wd. you live?" "Five hundred years" replied Mr. Fox. "And how wd. you employ yr. time" sd. Sir Willm.—Mr. Fox answered "200 years should be disposed of in acquiring

knowledge, 100 years for my country, and 200 years in preparing for futurity." This conversation shewed that whatever Mr. Fox's sentiments were at a former period which [were] well known not to be religious, that when He came to a more advanced period of life He had serious considerations respecting eternity. Sir George afterwards mentioned this to Mr. Knight who said He remembered something of the conversation, but He was disposed to weaken the effect of that which Sir Wm. Scott had reported & whose fidelity of attention to what Mr. Fox sd. might well be relied upon.

Taste in Choosing Furniture

October 23.—At breakfast we had conversation abt. taste in choosing furniture. Lady Beaumont sd. that the splendour of the furniture at Carlton House is so great that let the company who go there be ever so finely dressed they are not seen, the eyes of all being drawn off by the gorgeous decorations of the apartments. Sir George said it was not so at Lord Grosvenor's where the furniture has a fine solemn effect, & when the apartments are filled with company the effect is like that of a Venetian picture.—Lord Lonsdale said Mr. Thos. Hope's house resembled a museum.—

Art and Morality

Sir George spoke of Payne Knight's criticism of the life & works of James Barry, the Historical painter, published in the *Edinburgh Review.* He sd. He thought many of the observations of Mr. Knight were judicious, but He could not concur with Him in His assertion that painting is merely an imitative art, and not capable of operating so as to produce any moral effect. I said that Mr. Knight might be asked whether painting was not capable of producing an immoral effect? This He wd. hardly deny, & if so it would perhaps be easy to prove that it might produce good moral effects.—

Wordsworth's Tribute to Reynolds

Lady Beaumont brought and read to me the following lines written by *Wordsworth* and intended to be inscribed upon an Urn at the end of an Avenue of Lime trees at Coleorton to the memory of Sir Joshua Reynolds by Sir George Beaumont.

" Ye Lime trees ranged before this hallowed Urn!
" Shoot forth with lively power at Spring's return!
" And be not slow a stately growth to rear
" Of pillars branching off from year to year,
" Till ye at length have filled a darksome Aisle,
" Like a recess within that sacred pile
" Where Reynolds, mid our Country's noblest dead
" In the last sanctity of fame is laid.
" And worthily within these sacred bounds,
" The excelling painter sleeps; & here may I

" Unblamed, upon my patrimonial grounds
" Raise this frail tribute to His memory,
" An humbler Follower of the soothing art
" That He professed, attached to Him in heart;
" Admiring, loving, and with grief & pride
" Feeling what England lost when Reynolds died.

Alterations proposed:

" And be not slow a stately growth to rear
" Bending yr. docile boughs from year to year
" Till in a solemn concord they unite
" Like that Cathedral Dome beneath whose height
" Reynolds among our Country's noblest dead
" In the last sanctity of Fame is laid.

" There though by right the excelling Painter sleep
" Where Death & Glory a joint Sabbath keep,
" Yet not the less His spirit will hold dear
" Self hidden praise and friendships private tear,
" And on my native grounds unblamed may I
" Raise this frail tribute to His memory;
" From youth a zealous follower of the art
" That He professed, attached to Him in heart

et cetera.

Another alteration from the following lines:

" Self hidden praise & friendships private tear
" Hence an obscure memorial witht. blame
" In these domestic grounds may bear His name
" Unblamed this votive Urn may oft renew
" Some miid sensation to His genius due,
" From one—a humble Follower of the art
" That He professed—attached to Him in Heart.

Note. The first was adopted witht. alteration.

The Prince and the Painter

October 24.—I walked with William Owen [R.A.] on the Terrace. He spoke to me of his having been appointed by the Prince of Wales to be His Portrait Painter but He had not painted His portrait, but the Prince had promised to sit to Him when He could find time and told Him that several copies wd. be required. He said that when He was with the Prince His Royal Highnesses manner was so easy and familiar, He putting His hand upon Owen's shoulder, that it required constant guard not to forget His situation.—When the Prince promised His portrait to Lord Egremont to be painted by Philips from a portrait for which the Prince sometime ago sat to Philips, He sent Mr. Tyrwhitt to Owen to inform him of the circumstances as being a matter that was not to affect Him.

CHAPTER XXXIX

1812

Cole Orton

Lord Aylesford's Abilities

The newspaper brought this evening contained an account of the death of the Earl of Aylesford on Tuesday the 20th. inst.* at Packington in Warwickshire, suddenly. He had been subject to the gout & His appearance had suffered from it. His death was much regretted by Sir George who knew Him & admired His great skill in etching and making drawings in the manner of Rembrant. " But sd. Sir George, His taste was limited, He could not endure the pictures of Wilson." He was remarkable for His great perseverance in endeavouring to accomplish whatever He undertook & in many instances succeeded, but He never could acquire the practise of *painting* though He drew with so much effect.—He was much devoted to *Archery* as an exercise. He had learnt to ride " the Great Horse," He had studied Architecture, and Perspective, under Bonomi, an Italian Architect, who was an Associate of the Royal Academy, and was much His Patron. He married a daughter of the Marquiss of Bath & had by her 19 or 20 children, and at the time of His death was 60 or 61 years old. He was religiously disposed, and guarded His health, so far with care as for some years to have abstained from drinking wine, whether advisedly or not is uncertain.

Farington's Reading

October 25.—At eleven we went to Morning Divine Service. The weather being dull & humid I remained at home, as did the rest of the family the remainder of the day. I read part of Dr. Preistley's Defence of the Christian religion against the attacks of Volney, Gibbon, Hume & others, and was much pleased with his temperate reasoning and gratified by the strength of His arguments. This pamphlet was published at *Philadelphia* in 1797.

* Burke says the 21st.

Lady Beaumont spoke to me of Coleridge who she much admires as a man of genius & judgment. She said that Coleridge considers *Reviews* & the multiplication of newspapers as tending to amuse the mind superficially, and that at former periods when Lord Bacon and other great Philosophers and deep thinkers lived there being no such light matter in circulation the minds of men were employed in a more solid manner.

I told Her that I could not agree with Coleridge in His opinion that these periodical publications had such an effect; that without them men like Lord Bacon wd. seldom appear in the world, and that when they should such minds were not likely to be weakened by publications which if they did not operate in a more powerful way they at least diffused much general information to those who could not appropriate much time to the reading of books.—

We dined at 5, & in the even'g Lady Beaumont read prayers & Sir George a Sermon to the family.—Owen spoke of Lord Grenville whose Portrait He painted, and said that when His Lordship first came to Him His manner appeared so cold & repulsive that He (Owen) had never seen anything more so; but after a little intercourse with His Lordship He found Him very easy and agreeable, and his conversation pleasant, and calculated to shew attention to Owen.—

The Prince of Wales and Charles II

October 26.—At breakfast the Royal family was spoken of. Owen said that the Prince of Wales in speaking of the Kings who had reigned in England had said that Charles the Second was the only King of the whole number that could be lived with as a gentleman. Lady Beaumont said it [had] been remarked of the Queen that she had never been known to forget for a moment that she was *Queen*.—C. Long was mentioned as having said that the Duke of Clarence has the best abilities of any of the present Royal Family.—

A Scottish Artist

After dinner we had conversation respecting the *Biography of Artists*. Sir George thought that John Cozens Junr. had not yet been noticed by any Biographer neither had Jefferies.—He and Owen urged me much to write the life of Wilson, adding such remarks upon His works as to my judgment might seem proper.

October 27.—This morning at breakfast we had some conversation respecting the late Jacob More, the landscape painter who died at Rome. His pictures were admired to excess both by Italians & Germans, and He was visited by several Crowned Heads to see His pictures. Yet, said Sir George, Freebairn was a far better painter than More, whc He had imitated. More was a Scotchman. A picture which He sent to England was

bought by Sir Joshua Reynolds & by Him sold to Mr. Philip Metcalfe. This picture was of a better colour than More's pictures usually were. This Sir George sd. was accounted for it having been glazed & touched upon by Reinagle Senr.

Canning and War with America

The newspapers for some days past contained speeches made by Mr. George Canning during the Poll for members of Parliament at Liverpool & at the conclusion of it. In these speeches Mr. Canning declared himself an Enemy to reform in Parliament, He thinking that as it is at present constituted it is practically the best for the people.—The Catholic question He thinks ought to be discussed & His opinion is that the indulgencies required by the Catholics might be granted witht. endangering the security of the established religion. He spoke of the repeal of the "*Orders in Council*" moved by Mr. Brougham as being a sure means of preserving peace with America, and expressed His opinion as having been *against the repeal*, which it was now seen had not produced the effect which Mr. Brougham prophesied it would have but on the contrary it had caused the American government to rise in their demands upon us.

He, Mr. Canning, was decidedly disposed to declare War against the Americans and to make them feel what War is. He said the British Ministry had now done it. He would have done it at an earlier period.—After a Poll of Seven days Mr. Canning and General Gascoigne were returned members for Liverpool, and Mr. Henry Brougham & Mr. T. Creevey who were supported by Mr. William *Roscoe* & the *Reformists* were the disappointed candidates.

Fox and Laxity of Public Manners

October 28.—At breakfast we had conversation upon the subject of public manners. Lady Beaumont spoke of the ease with which women of fashion who have been irregular in their conduct are admitted into what is called respectable Society, as a proof that there is little regard to Morals.

Sir George said that Charles Fox had contributed more than any other person to this laxity in intercourse by introducing Mrs. Armstead His mistress, a woman who had been very common, into company after He married Her. His influence in society was such that she visited with him some of the first families in rank. He added that taking Him altogether politically and otherwise He had done more harm than any other man of His time, in which opinion I entirely concurred.

The Reynolds Memorial

October 30.—At noon today Sir George & Lady Beaumont, Owen and myself walked to Arbour in which Sir George had given directions to

have a monument to the memory of Sir Joshua Reynolds erected, and there the Workmen being assembled the first stone was laid with due form by Sir George, Lady Beaumont, Owen & myself; and afterwards each of us in turn struck the stone with a mallet Lady Beaumont saying "May nothing but *Time* destroy this Monument."—

The Shyness of Sir Henry

Two Gentlemen from the neighboroud came to dinner.—Mr. Lee, resides at Ravenstone, 2 miles & ¼ from Coleorton; Mr. Thorpe resides near Leicester. He married a daughter of Mr. Lee. These gentlemen mentioned several particulars of the singularities of the present Sir Henry Harpur Crewe of Calke in Derbyshire. He is shy of communication to such an excess that He sometimes delivers his orders to His servants *by letter.* At dinner He sits down alone at a table covered for several persons, and after dinner glasses are placed as if for company and He takes His wine in that form, but does not allow any servant to wait in the room. He is abt. 43 or 4 years old, is married, and has estates valued at £25,000 a yr. He keeps a pack or packs of Hounds, but does not himself hunt, yet with all His unwillingness to communicate He has pleasure in listening to His Huntsman while He gives an account of each Chase. His shyness is a disease of the mind, which He is sensible of but cannot conquer, and in letters to His friends He laments that He labours under this difficulty.—After tea the Visitors left us.—

James Ward and His Constitution

October 31.—This evening I arrived in London from Coleorton in Leicestershire accompanied by William Owen R.A. who dined with me. [James] Ward came in after dinner & had tea with us. He wished to speak abt. His receiving His Diploma as an Academician on Monday Novr. 2nd. and also abt. filling the vacancies of Associates. He spoke abt. His constitution which had been greatly benefitted by drinking warm water only at His meals,—by eating plain meat, and avoiding butter, & tea but in small quantities,—also *wine* saying that *two glasses* wd. affect His sleep & make Him low-spirited for a day after drinking that small quantity.—He sd. He had also derived great benefit from drinking occasionally a pint of water had from Chad's Well at the end of Gray's Inn Lane. This warmed, operated as a gentle purgative and as a bracer of the stomach. It is a Chalybeate water.

CHAPTER XL

1812

Insurrection at Paris

November 1.—I remained at home this morning and read prayers & a Sermon to Mary [the servant].—In the afternoon I walked out & met James Boaden [Journalist] & had conversation with him respecting Buonaparte & Russia, and the insurrection at Paris. He said if the 3 Generals at Paris who headed the insurrection and are taken should be executed He should consider it to be real in its foundations; if not, & they should only be put in confinement He shd. consider it a mock business contrived by Buonaparte as an excuse for His quitting Russia, by which means He wd. shift from himself to His officers the discredit of any failure which at present may happen there. Of the ultimate consequence of the war in Russia He felt decidedly that Buonaparte would dismember that Empire.—

C. Webber [wine merchant] I called on. He gave a very desponding acct. of the state of the Merchants in the City & spoke of many great failures. He informed me that *M.* stopped payment abt. a month after the failure of Kensington's Bank, & He feared would eventually, notwithstanding the great indulgence of His Creditors, become a Bankrupt.—

Raeburn

William Westall spoke to me about filling the vacancies of Associates. He said He was willing to vote for Henry *Raeburn* and W. *Bird*, but hoped His Brother Wm. Westall would be the third elected, & said He could reckon upon 15 favourable answers for Him from Academicians. I did not encourage Him in this expectation, neither had Lawrence or Smirke. The latter had in a note expressed to Him that it would be best for Him to look forward to another period and for the present to endeavour to prevent the filling of more than a very few vacancies, though He added that Shee and Flaxman were likely to urge the filling many vacancies.

Westall had been in London the whole of the Autumn, chiefly employed on the picture of " The Grecian Marriage " ordered by Mr. Payne Knight at the price of one thousand guineas.—

November 2.—Bone called to speak abt. the election. I told Him that though there were seven *vacancies* of Associates it wd. in my opinion be very injudicious to fill more than *four*. I remarked that though there were several names upon the list of Candidates they were so equal in merit that it would be difficult to determine which was best, and that it would be hardly possible but that before another year should expire a manifest superiority in some of them wd. be acknowledged. I told Him I thought Raeburn, Bird, and Alfred Chalon shd. be three of the number to be elected. He agreed to these names but excepted so far to Bird as an objection that He did not send His picture of "*Chevy Chase*" to the Academy Exhibition but to the British Institution.

A Music Composer

Callcott called. He had been absent from London Three months, in Devonshire, Somersetshire, & Wiltshire, at Mr. George Cary's of Tor-Abbey,—& at Sir Richd. Hoare's at Stourhead.—

He had also passed a month with His Brother Doctor Callcott, the celebrated Musical Composer, who had for 5 years past been in a state of insanity, but now appeared to be recovering & Callcott trusted that in 12 months more He wd. be restored to His friends & the public.—Dr. Callcott is perfectly sensible of His situation, & is very careful to guard against irritation. His disorder manifests itself in an extreme hurry of mind, with a confusion of ideas relating to the affairs of other people than His own family.—We talked of the election. He thought Raeburn, Bird,—& Chalon were entitled to notice & seemed to be altogether much of my opinion. [These men & Wm. Westall were elected on Nov. 2.]—

Architecture

Jeffery Wyatt called. He also being a Candidate. He spoke of the great extent of business which He had upon His hands as an Architect, & that He had 10 Clerks constantly employed in His Office in London. He told me He had 3 children one son & 2 daugrs. His eldest child abt. 11 years old. He spoke of His Uncle James Wyatt the Architect with great regard, & said He was one of the best tempered men living.

I told Him that J. Wyatt had built a fine mansion for the Earl of Bridgewater at Ashridge & that while *Owen* was there, Wyatt was also there for 3 weeks, & during that time seemed to be incessantly employed in His Office. That, said Jeffery, is just what He shd. not have been. While He was employing Himself for so long a time at Ashridge there were many other works standing still, which, if He had divided His time properly wd. not have been the case, but by this management He has always been in difficulties.—

Drury Lane Theatre and Windsor Castle

I spoke of the Theatre at Drury Lane just completed, and as two of Wyatt's Sons were Candidates for the building of it, I concluded that Wyatt had assisted both. He said it was not so; on the contrary Wyatt was much displeased with Benjamin Dean Wyatt for offering a design as His younger Brother Philip Wyatt had proposed for it. B. Wyatt however persisted & succeeded and the consequence was that J. Wyatt ceased to have any intercourse with Him & so it remained, sd. Jeffery to that time. I asked Him how B. Wyatt had acquired sufficient knowledge of Architecture to qualify him for such an undertaking, as it was known that He had been in India in the Civil Service as a writer. He replied that for three years past M. C. Wyatt after being sometime in His Father's Office, had devoted his attention particularly to the study of a Theatre.—

Matthew C. Wyatt called to mention that He was a Candidate for one of the Associate vacancies. He said that for Seven years past He had been employed in painting ceilings at Windsor Castle having been appointed by the King's command. The King, He sd. at the same [time] discriminated between Him and Rigaud. To the latter He assigned the painting [of] a part of [the] ceiling of which the other part was painted by Antonio *Verrio*. To match that suitably will be proper for John Francis Rigaud [R.A.] who has much experience in manners of painting; you on the contrary not having such experience will be best employed in inventing & painting in such manner as you are best prepared for.—

This being [so] M. Wyatt began and said He had completed the whole of the ceilings except one of an apartment which is over that in which the King now lives. For this He sd. " I have made designs but the execution of it must be postponed till circumstances will admit of it.

Trade for the City

November 3.—L. Coxe I dined with and his family.—He spoke favourably of the state of trade in the City & said much business was now carrying on with France. He said it appeared to Him that the prevailing opinion respecting the war in Russia was that eventually Buonaparte would prevail—not from want of bravery in the people, but from the want of a good and able government in Russia.

CHAPTER XLI

1812

Turner's Illness

November 4.—Academy Council I went to. At the Council Turner complained much of a nervous disorder, with much weakness at the Stomach. Everything He said, disagreed with Him,—turned *acid*.—He particularly mentioned an aching pain at the back of His neck.—He said He was going to Mr. Fawkes's in Yorkshire for a month, and I told Him Air, moderate exercise, and changing His situation wd. do most for Him.—

November 6.—I passed a considerable time this morning in studying the effect of light upon the scenery of the River Thames. I walked over Blackfryars Bridge & proceeded upon the Banks of the River towards London Bridge & studied the effect of light, haze, & colour upon St. Paul's & the buildings on the London side of the River. I afterwards walked along the Bank above Blackfryars Bridge for the same purpose.

Persons of Distinction

Samuel Lysons & Richd. Smirke dined with me. Lysons said that He dined yesterday with the Royal Society Club. Sir Joseph Banks, Mr. Marsden late *Secretary* to the Admiralty,—& several other intelligent persons were present. The conversation [turned] upon the proper mode of directing to persons of distinction and it was agreed that it is now settled by the Upper ranks of Society to be thus, viz :

A Duke.	To His Grace the Duke of B.
Marquiss.	To The Marquiss of C.
Earl,	To the Earl of D.
Viscount,	To the Viscount E.
Baron,	To The Right Honble. *The* Lord F.
A Daughter of a Duke, Marquiss or Earl.	To *The* Lady Mary G.
Daugr. of a Baron ;	To The Honble. Miss H.
To the Son of a Duke or Marquiss.	To The *Right Honble.* Lord J. I.

And in addressing persons of Rank, in a letter,

To a Duke	My Lord.
Marquiss.	do.
Earl.	do.
Viscount or Baron.	do.
To a Duchess, Marchioness, Countess, Viscountess or Baroness.	Madam.
To a Baronet, — Sir.	

Constable's Lodgings on Fire

November 10.—Rose at quarter past 5, being alarmed by my Servants of a fire having broke out at a House [in Charlotte st. Fitzroy square] nearly opposite to mine inhabited by Wright, an Upholsterer, where Constable, the landscape & Portrait painter lodged. He brought over many of His things. An Hour passed before the Fire Engines were brought: The weather a hard frost but no wind. The Fire was quenched leaving the front of the House, & the Front apartments uninjured. The fire was supposed to be caused by something in the Cabinet work shop which had been unnoticed.—

November 11.—Constable called & told me that He had suffered no loss by the fire, and that Henderson the Dentist had offered Him a room to paint in for the present.—I dined at Home, H. Hamond with me.—He told me that Lord Malpass, son to the Earl of Cholmondely [afterwards 1st Marquess] had married a daugr. of [Colin Campbell] Lieut. Govr. of Gibraltar, & that she was then only 16 years old.—

Buonaparte Overrated

November 13.—Lawrence called. We talked of the situation of Buonaparte in Russia, and I repeated to him what I had long said,—"That Buonaparte had been overrated, & that His judgment did not keep pace with his ambition."—He told me that He lately dined at Mr. J. J. Angerstein's & that some gentlemen from Russia were there. They spoke of the people of Russia as being of *one mind*,—determined to expel the French or to perish. That Peace or War did not now depend upon the inclination of the Emperor Alexander, for should He move for Peace with Buonaparte He would be dethroned if not killed.—

Price of Engravings

November 14.—John Pye, the engraver called. He told me that for Plates of the same size with those for the *Britannia Depicta*, Sir Joseph Bankes for a national work under the Admiralty pays Him 45 guineas for each plate, while Cadell & Davis pay Him only 35 guineas.—He also gets much more by working on plates for Pocket Books than by engraving for Messrs. Cadell & Davis.

November 19.—Dr. Thomas Monro spoke of the King, & said that sometimes He is in a state of great irritation for perhaps 24 Hours together but that these attacks had not affected His general health. "I think," sd. Dr. Monro, "that there is a fair probability that the King may live 10 years* & were I to lay a wager, whether the King or the Prince Regent wd. live longest I do not know that I shd. not bet on the duration of the King's life."—It was then remarked that the nervous system of the Prince Regent has been much affected, and that He has something abt. His Hands, a *twitching* which has the appearance of a Paralytic affection.—

New Church at St. Pancras

November 20.—Dr. Middleton, Vicar of St. Pancrass called to request me to put my signature to a petition to the House of Commons for a new Parish Church [in Euston Road] to be built in which there shd. be accommodation for abt. 800 of the poorer inhabitants free of expense. He told me a rate of Sixpence in the pound *on Houses* wd. affect it & that in 5 years it might be completed. He acknowledged that there is a strong opposition to it on acct. of the heavy burden of Poor rates & the difficulties of the times. He said the *Sectaries* are increasing in a vast proportion & that the education of Children of the Parish is much neglected. I was influenced by His statement & signed the Petition.

Dr. Middleton owes his preferment in the Church to the Bishop of Lincoln, who as Dean of St. Paul's got Him appointed to St. Pancrass which is in the gift of the Dean & Chapter. He was for sometimes Tutor to the Children of the Revd. John Pretyman, Prebend of Norwich, and brother to the Bishop of Lincoln.—

* He lived 8 years.

CHAPTER XLII

1812

Ministerial Neglect of Wellington

November 21.—Lawrence called & had tea with me.—He told me that Lord Wellesley had reminded Him of His prognostication "That notwithstanding the temporary effect of the battle of *Salamanca* it would not be followed by any alternate good consequences." This, His Lordship attributed to the indisposition of Ministers to support Lord Wellington with a force sufficient to enable Him to avail himself of the advantage He had gained.—*Note*, At this time Lord Wellington was retreating.—

An Actor's Earnings

November 22.—James Heath I dined with. W. H. W. *Betty* [young Roscius] having a cold *was* prevented from being of the party. Heath said, That the Father of Betty, the Actor told him that He had accumulated £34,000 by His Son's acting & that He had purchased an estate in Worcestershire or Shropshire for which He gave £40,000 & to make up that Sum He borrowed £4000.—He died abt. a year & Half ago,—leaving a widow & two children: viz: Betty the Actor & a daugr. a child of 8 or 9 yrs. of age.—Betty, the Actor has engaged to play at Covent Garden Theatre 12 nights before Christmas and 12 after Christmas at £50 per each night; but after the first 12 nights the agreement is to [be] void if either party wishes it.—Heath asked Young Betty how long He meant to remain upon the Stage? Betty replied That wd. depend upon the public. He shd. continue so long as He shd. see the disposition of the public in His favour.—

Royal Academy the First Society

November 23.—William Collins called upon me & informed me He had been solicited by John Varley, a member of the Water colour [Society] to meet several artists at Varley's House in Broad St. to consult and to form a plan for establishing a Society of Painters in *Oil* & in Water Colours, the Society of Painters in Water Colours at Spring Gardens being dissolved. Collins requested me to give him my advice as what He shd. do,

LEIGH HUNT
By J. Hayter

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should I think that He had a prospect of becoming a Member of the Royal Academy in a few years He shd. prefer that to every other thing. I told Him my [opinion] was that it wd. be best for Him to look at the highest situation He cd. obtain, in the Art,—that the Royal Academy was & wd. be the first Society, and to be a Member of it shd. be His object, unless He shd. prefer being of a Society where the profits arising from Exhibitions wd. be shared by the members of it; I added that His name had been noticed in the list of Candidates at the Royal Academy as one for consideration.—He said He shd. be determined by what I had said, and that He shd. think of nothing but the Royal Academy.—

The King's Chaplains

November 29.—Dr. Maddy, one of the King's Chaplains, told me that every Sunday morning at 8 oClock prayers are read, at the King's private Chapel St. James's, and afterwards a Sermon is preached by one of the *Chaplains* they taking it in rotation; after which if there be a sufficient number of persons attending (very few are required) the Holy Sacrament is administered. This morning Lestock Wilson with His family attended; the *Duke of Cambridge* was there, and often attends. Dr. Maddy told me that when the Chaplains dinner table at St. James's was put down, the Chaplains were allowed each £30 a year; altogether the *saving* by putting down the dinner does not amount to more than £200 a year. The expence of the table while kept was abt. £2000 pr. annum.—

Leigh Hunt and "The Examiner"

December 3.—This my Birthday, having completed my 65th. year I was at home and alone till the evening when I dined with John Sanders [the architect] in Weymouth St. Portland Place.—

The *Hunts* (3 Brothers) were spoken of and stated to be as follows:—Leigh Hunt, aged 26, who was for sometime at Christ's Hospital,—afterwards had a situation in the War Office,—and at that time He attended the Theatres & wrote criticisms on the Actors &c. which were published in the Newspapers & much noticed. This caused Him in conjunction with his Brother John Hunt, to resolve upon establishing a newspaper on their own account, which they did with the Title of *The Examiner*, which now has a greater sale than any other paper, 7000 being sold weekly.—Robt. Hunt, the 3d. Brother, is considered to be a very inferior man. He writes upon the *Arts*. All the Brothers are married, and are men of very moral habits.—

Buonaparte's Retreat from Moscow

December 6.—Lysons called.—He spoke of the situation of Buonaparte in Russia as being now most difficult; and that even Sir Charles

Blagden, His great admirer, now began to give Him up as to any expectation of His being able to extricate himself successfully.—

Westall I dined with.—Charles Mayne Young is a *tragedian* of eminence. His Father was an eminent Surgeon & Apothecary in the neighhood of Finsbury Square.—

December 7.—Dr. Hayes I called on for relief from tooth-ache by extracting a decayed tooth. We talked of the successes of the Russians against Buonaparte, & on my return home I recd. the following acct. from Robert Smirke [R.A.].—"Lieutenant Hartlam arrived at 2 oClock this morning with dispatches from Admiral Hope—landed at Harwich last night, with intelligence of a Battle fought on the 8th or 9th of November,—20 Regiments of Cossacks, consisting of 25,000 men, killed 12000, and took 3000 French prisoners and 62 Brass Cannon. Buonaparte surrounded & stopped for want of Forage; 400 Horses die daily.—The Officer adds that Buonaparte is so surrounded that *His escape is nearly impossible.*"

December 9.—Smirke's I dined at.—Much of our conversation respected Buonaparte & the various reports and conjectures arising from His known disastrous retreat from Moscow.—

December 10.—Antiquary Society I went to after tea & there saw Sir Wm. Blizzard and talked with him & Lysons of the good news this day recd. from Gottenburgh viz: "That Buonaparte's army was surrounded at *Smolensk*, and that General Augereau with 2000 men had surrendered themselves prisoners to the Russians."—

CHAPTER XLIII

1812

Flaxman and Lincoln Cathedral

December 11.—Flaxman called this morning. He told me that for the purpose of collecting materials for a more full acct. of the History of Sculpture in England to be introduced into His Academical Lectures He made an excursion in August last & in His tour saw *Waltham Cross*, Cambridge, Lincoln Cathedral, Beverley Minster,—& York Cathedral &c.—He made drawings of the figures of Waltham Cross & thought the whole of it a beautiful specimen of the Sculpture of that period.—At Cambridge He saw the statue of Mr. Pitt by Nollekens, which appeared a work of very superior quality.

He was more struck with the appearance of Lincoln Cathedral than with almost any other He had ever seen, for its dignity & enrichments; & taking in its elevated situation He felt more impressed by the solemn grandeur of it than He cd. express. After seeing Lincoln Cathedral He felt quite disappointed on seeing York Cathedral which is finely finished but makes no impression like that of Lincoln.—He met William Porden, the Architect, at York, & to him expressed His sentiments. Porden was much disappointed at His giving a preference to Lincoln Cathedral.—

Smirke & C. Offley dined with me.—We had much conversation respecting the War in Russia. C. Offley, as usual was cold upon the victories of the Russians, & was much inclined to give credit to the Bulletins of Buonaparte.—Lawrence came in the even'g, full of congratulation on the victories of the Russians.—

December 12.—Nollekens I called on. He complained much of the Students of the Academy (Modellers) being allowed to take their *Models home*, before they presented them for the Premium, as they might there be worked upon by other persons & much improved. This, He sd. had been the case.—

December 16.—Academy Council I went to. A letter from Lord Sidmouth, Secretary of State, was read. It was written by command of the Prince Regent recommending to the Academy to take into consideration a memorial signed by several Engravers, urging their claim to be admitted (a certain number of them) to the rank of Academicians. The memorial was addressed to the Prince Regent.—

December 17.—I was at home all day,—the weather dark & very wintry.—Yesterday & this day the town was exhilarated with the joyful news of the total discomfiture of the armies of Buonaparte in Russia, in the vicinity of Smolensk. The tower & Park guns were fired yesterday.

Ten Guineas had been given at Lloyd's Coffee House to receive 100 guineas should *Omnium* rise to 10 pr. cent Premium before Christmas Day. Yesterday it rose to 10 pr. cent & in consequence losses were sustained to the amount, it was said, of £150,000.—

Raeburn, the Portrait Painter

December 19.—H. Thomson, R.A., called.—Lord Grey took him to Edinburgh from Howick which is 80 miles distant. At Edinburgh He remained 3 days and was highly gratified with the romantic scenery of the town. He had not seen in His tour on the Continent anything to compare with it.—He was much with Henry *Raeburn*, the Portrait Painter, and expressed high approbation of him both as an artist and a man.—From Edinburgh He returned to Lord Lauderdale's near Dunbar, and there found Lord Grey who carried him back to Howick, where His stay altogether was extended to 3 months.—

Engravers as Academicians

December 23.—Academy General Meeting I went to.—The Prince Regent's communication respecting the application of Engravers to be admitted to the rank of Academicians was taken into consideration & Unanimously rejected.—An application from the Marquiss of Stafford in the name of the Directors of the British Institution requesting to have the pictures painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds & deposited in the Royal Academy lent to them to form part of an Exhibition of His works to be opened for 6 weeks in May next.—The opinion of the meeting was that they could not be lent out of the Academy there being a Resolution of Council against it.—

Buonaparte's Admission

On our way home Lawrence informed us that Buonaparte had arrived at Paris and had published a Bulletein acknowledging the destruction of his Army.—

Henry *Tresham* [R.A.] was the first person who spoke upon the question, & opposed the granting of the rank of Academicians to Engravers. He stated that in no Foreign Academies except *Russia* had they been admitted to that distinction. In Russia, a country considered with respect to the Arts semi-barbarous, in forming an Academy it had been found necessary to admit artists in the line of Engravers, to fill up their number, but in the Academies of *St. Luke* at Rome,—that of Florence, & of Paris, &c. Engravers were not admitted to the rank of Academicians.—He said, *Marc Antonio* spread the reputation of *Raphael* & of *Michl. Angelo* by His

engraving from their works, & himself was in His department held in the highest esteem, but He never was admitted to be a member of the Academy of Florence of which Michl. Angelo & Raphael were members.

He insisted that Engraving is, & should be considered, only as an inferior branch of the Arts, requiring no original powers of thinking & conception, that it is purely imitative, & should not be classed with the higher branches viz : Painting, Sculpture, & Architecture.—He noticed the false statements in the memorial drawn up by Landseer but thought them not worth answering on the present occasion.—

John Flaxman spoke on the same side, strenuously opposing the claim of the Engravers.—Henry Fuseli supported Tresham's statement, and treated engraving as being a mechanical & very inferior branch of Art; allowing it no more than He wd. in comparing *a translator* with an *Author*, or a *Printer* with a *translator*.

Benjamin West's Opinion

A letter from Mr. West, the President, was read. It was addressed to the General Assembly, and was intirely in *favour of the Memorial of the Engravers*, and in it He assigned as a reason why Engravers were not admitted to the rank of Academicians at the Institution was owing to a personal feeling in some of those who planned & formed the Academy, to Mr. Strange, afterwards Sir Robert Strange, the Engraver.—Mr. West's letter was much disapproved of by the members who heard it read and did not operate in the least degree in favour of the Engravers.

December 24.—The newspapers of this morn'g contained the 29th. Bulletein of the French Army in Russia dated at *Moldatschino* Decr. 3d. 1812, stating the extreme distresses of the Army, but omitting to notice battles in which they suffered great losses. Buonaparte escaped from His Army & travelled in *a Sledge* and *incognito* with extraordinary expedition. He arrived at Paris on Friday December 18th. at half-past Eleven oClock at night.—

Lawrence called on me, & said that upon further consideration He felt uneasy at the decission of the General Assembly of Academicians not to allow the pictures in the Royal Academy painted by Sir J. Reynolds, to be exhibited at the British Institution agreeably to the request made by the Marquiss of Stafford.—I told Him I wd. speak abt. it at the Council tomorrow night.—

December 26.—I was at home till the evening.—Academy Council I went to.—Upon further consideration we resolved to refer the application of the Marquiss of Stafford for the pictures painted by Sir J. Reynolds to a General Meeting.—Smirke, Turner & Callcott were not inclined to grant the pictures, and thought the plan of exhibiting a Collection of pictures by Sir J. Reynolds at the British Institution during the Exhibition of the Royal Academy invidious towards the Artists of the present day.—We proceeded with the Abstract of the Laws of the Academy.—

December 30.—The letter from the Marquiss of Stafford requesting the loan of the pictures painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds was read, it now coming regularly from the Council, which before it did not.—Lawrence, Tresham, Thomas, Philips, & Flaxman spoke for lending the pictures. After some debate it was agreed to but the *vote was not Unanimous;* Turner, James Northcote & others were against it.—

H. Tresham told me that He receives £200 a yr. from Longman & Co. Booksellers:—One half of it for writing descriptions &c. for a publication of prints,—the other half for touching upon prints for Engravers, as they proceed in executing plates.—

Allan Ramsay, Portrait Painter to the King

December 31.—Academy Council I went to. Letter was written to the Marquiss of Stafford informing Him that the pictures in the Royal Academy painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds wd. be lent to the British Institution for the Exhibition of His works in May next.—Agreeably to a *Resolution of Council* the Members of the Old and New Council dined together in the Library of the Academy to which the *Keeper*, being the Resident Officer, was invited.—

Fuseli spoke of the late Allan Ramsay who was Portrait Painter to the King. He was an indifferent Painter, but was a sensible man and a good scholar. He married a relation of the Lord Chief Justice, Earl Mansfield,* and acquired a handsome fortune by painting Portraits of the King & Queen for Ambassadors and other persons employed by government.—

In Italy, at Turin, Ramsay took Fuseli to see the works of a painter who could draw well, and could reason upon the principles of art and compose pictures agreeably to rules commonly considered essential to be attended to, still His works produced little impression on an intelligent Spectator. "I see, said Ramsay to Fuseli on coming away, that common sense will not make a Painter. This man can shew you why He does this & that & attends to prescribed rules, but more is wanting to touch the feelings."

Much conversation took place respecting Young *Betty*, the Actor. Fuseli had lately seen him often in several characters, & decidedly gave Him a preference over J. P. *Kemble*, & all the other Tragedians, as having more nature & originality.—In this opinion Dance entirely concurred, saying He wd. rather see Betty in a Character than a thousand Kembles.—

Fuseli produced outlines (tracings from the originals sent by Mr. Foster Junr. of Liverpool) drawn from the Freizes of the Temple of Phigalia in the Morca, and considered to be the work of Phidias.—Those now present as far as they could judge from these small outlines conceived that they represent a work of the highest character; and one common wish was expressed that they might be purchased by government for this Country.

* He married the eldest daughter of Sir Alexander Lindsay, and niece of Lord Mansfield.

CHAPTER XLIV

1813

The Greatest General

January 1.—I had company to day at dinner.—With much other conversation we had some on political subjects. Hayes & J. Aytoun maintained that notwithstanding all His disappointments in Russia & in Spain, that Buonaparte was the *Greatest General existing*, & they wd. not allow Lord Wellington to be put in competition with Him. Hayes was confident that Buonaparte wd. again attack Russia, & that His late failure was to be attributed solely to the severity of the Season.—

Home Life at Woburn Abbey

January 2.—H. Bone [R.A.] called. He told me He had been some days on a visit to the Duke of Bedford at [Woburn] Abbey. He spoke of the magnificent & well regulated style of living, & of the manners of the Duke as being most amiable & unassuming, & similar to their Father are His Sons, the Marquiss of Tavistock and Lord John Russell. They speak but little, but make themselves agreeable to all persons. The Duchess is very easy & lively and at the head of Her table is very pleasant. They have Six Children, besides those born of the Duke's first marriage.—

At ½ past 9 every morning prayers are read by a Clergyman in an apartment appropriated for it, at which the Servants attend, and always some of the family, and some of the guests.—Abt. 10 oClock breakfast is ready under the management of the groom of the Chambers. *Every* individual has a *tea pot*; so that each person breakfasts when He pleases & independent of others.—Dinner is sat down to at 6 oClock, and the gentlemen remain till abt. ½ past 8, when they go to the Ladies.—

Ralph Kirtley, the Old Servant of the late Sir Joshua Reynolds called, and brought His Son in law Cockburn* who requested me to sign a paper drawn up by Carlisle, the Surgeon, recommending Him as a fit person to have the care of the Bourgeois Collection of pictures when placed at Dulwich College. Westall & Northcote had signed it & I did the same.—Kirtley told me that He was now in his 80th. year & well in health. He

* Ralph Cockburn was appointed Curator of the Gallery.

sd. He usually goes to bed at 8 or 9 oClock, and rises at 3 or 4 oClock in the morning.—

Bristol Merchants

January 7.—Ed. Bird of Bristol called this morning.—He spoke of the people of Bristol and said their characteristic is prudent oeconomy. During the period when so many failures have happened in various parts of the kingdom, to an alarming extent, only one Bankruptcy of any consequence took place in Bristol. There are many very opulent merchants, but they are careful of it, & moderate in their expences.—He said Mr. Hart Davies had not 20 or 25 years ago a thousand pounds in the world, & is now supposed to be worth from 3 to £500,000.—He is an exception to the general character of Bristol merchants as He lives at a large expence, has a House in Bristol & another near it; one in Grosvenor Square, London, and another in its vicinity.—His collection of pictures it is supposed cost him £100,000.—

January 10.—Wm. Offley called & talked of affairs of business.—He told me that Rev. Charles Curtis, a Clergyman [see Index, Vol. II.], who married the youngest of the Misses Waring who died in January last, had about a month ago married the *eldest* of the Sisters, and had changed from being a Methodist to an Anabaptist.

Lord Ellenborough a Voluptuary

January 11.—Hayes called. He mentioned some particulars which He had heard of Lord Ellenborough as being a great voluptuary in eating, and altogether a sensual man. The Recorder of London, Sir J. Sylvester, indulges much at the table, but in eating Turtle at a table with Lord Ellenborough, Sylvester fairly acknowledged that He was outdone by His Lordship.—Dr. Hayes said, that He had heard from Lawyers that Lord Ellenborough has professed it to be his object to reduce the damages below what was given in Crim: Con: cases in the time of Lord Kenyon, who seconded by Lord Erskine, then a Council, raised them as high as He cd. by exhorting the Juries.—Lord Ellenborough's speech upon this subject on the trial of the Hunt's authors of the *Examiner*, has been much disapproved as being very lax and unfit from one in His station.—

Henry Howard, R.A. called, to speak abt. the Queen's Birthday dinner, which Mr. Benjamin West much approves being ordered to be in the Royal Academy. Lawrence called, wishing much to have Ralph Kirtley the Old Servant of Sir Joshua Reynolds employed at the British [Institution] during the exhibition of pictures painted by Sir Joshua.—I recommended to him to apply to the Marquiss of Stafford which He sd. He wd. do through Mr. Payne Knight.—

January 13.—Academy Council I went to, but there being only

4 members present, we could not make a Council. We had conversation with Mr. Cuffe, one of the Proprietors of the Freemason's Tavern & gave an order for a dinner in the Council room of the Academy on the Queen's Birthday on the following terms.—

For dinner & Desert.		14/- pr. head.
Tea & Coffee.		1/6d. do.
Sherry pr bottle.		6/6
Port	do.	6/-.

January 18.—Academy Queen's Birthday dinner I went to. The dinner was served in the Council Room and was excellent. It consisted of two courses & a Desert. Sherry & Port only were ordered. The company sat down at 6 oClock, & drank Coffee & Tea at 9 oClock, & separated between 10 & 11 oClock. All present were gratified with the manner in which it was conducted, and the *Resolution of the Council* that the Birthday dinners should be in the Royal Academy was much approved. Thomson moved the thanks of the company to the Council for it which was universally applauded.—Mr. West spoke & expressed the pleasure He felt on the occasion & hoped it would be continued,—indeed nothing of the kind could be more agreeable.—

Picture by Benjamin West

I had some conversation with West respecting the great picture which He was now employed upon—" Pilate shewing Christ to the Jews." He said He had now conquered His greatest difficulty in having painted the *High Priest* giving to Him the whole force of what He had in His mind of that character.—He told me that He felt no anxiety for the completion of the picture having got through the labour of it, but should allow any time which might be necessary for improving the effect & refining upon it.—He said He, this day, had an offer of 8000 *guineas* for it.—

Thomson, who had been 3 months at Howick in Northumberland with Earl Grey, spoke of His Lordship having great pleasure in contemplating pictures, & a high consideration of that art.—Lord Grey's is a family of great regularity. They breakfast at ½ past 9, after which His Lordship retires to His study and remains there till one oClock when He rides out with His daughters. Dinner is served at 6 oClock, & in the even'g Lord Grey frequently reads to His family party.—

CHAPTER XLV

1813

Napoleon in a Scrape

While Buonaparte was advancing towards Moscow Lord Grey gave little credit to the Russian Bulletins, and continued to predict the success of the French; but when from Moscow a Bulletin appeared in which there was *only conjecture* of what Buonaparte would do, Lord Grey said, "Now I see Buonaparte is in a scrape."

January 20.—Wm. Offley called, also Wilson, all congratulation on the success of the Russians.

Dance spoke to me of Lord Ashburnham being now employed in altering His house, Ashburnham in Sussex. He said His Lordship's manner is dry, but that He is a very sensible man, does not talk much but tells a story well,—has a strong sense of humour, and is a man of truly good principle. His establishment is large, He feeds 70 persons every day.—Lady Ashburnham is very lively,—she amuses herself with drawing.

Hannah More's New Book

January 21.—Thomas Cadell called, & we had conversation respecting the publication of the *Britannia Depicta.*—He told me that the authors of the popular poetical work *Rejected Addresses* are Messrs. James and Horace Smith, Brothers to Mrs. Cadell, & Sons of Her Father Mr. Matthew Smith, Solicitor, and are engaged in business with him. The eldest is abt. 33 years old; the second abt. 28 years old; they have always had an inclination to Poetry. The work has been in much request; more than 4000 [copies] have been sold.—Mr. Cadell spoke of Mrs. Hannah More's new work [*Christian Morals*], and said it had already gone through two editions. All Her works, said He, sell well. We are Her publishers; Her *Caelebs* has sold to the amount of more than 12,000.—[See Vol. V., page 131.]

He mentioned a letter to Lord Somers by the Bishop of Gloucester—Dr. Huntingdon, on the Catholic Claims, as being thought to be very ably written;—also the Bishop of Lincoln's, Dr. Tomline, charge to the Clergy of Lincoln.—He said He believed that when the Catholic question comes

to be debated in the House of Commons the majority against emancipation will be very large, " The Catholics, sd. He, have in their proceedings shewn the Cloven foot, & put the people on their guard."—

Russians and Moscow

Mr. Cadell spoke of the successes of the Russians. He had been informed that when the Emperor Alexander heard of Buonaparte having entered Moscow His spirits sunk to despondency, & He expressed a desire to make peace with him on such conditions as He might be able. His Nobles & Ministers then informed Him that the Hearts of the Russian people were with them and to resist and drive out the French to which should He not agree they should appoint another Emperor. This communication had its effect.—

Royal Academy and Associates

January 22.—Howard called & shewed me a letter which He had recd. signed by Heath & Landseer, Associate Engravers, requesting to know in whose Custody, " Whether in the Keeper, or Secretary " the Archives of the Academy were placed, & expressing a desire to inspect them. Howard said He shd. write an answer informing them that the Books of the Royal Academy were in His keeping, but that He could [not] allow them to inspect the books witht. permission of the President & Council. I fully concurred in the propriety of this answer, they as Associates having nothing to do with the business of the Academy.—

January 24.—Lestock Wilson's I dined at.—The death of Lord Tyrconnel at *Wilna* was mentioned, and a letter from Him was stated to have been seen by one of the company which was written a short time before His death in which He wrote that from the extreme cold He had lost an *Ear*, and that a friend of His had lost *his nose*.—

January 26.—Hayes called.—We talked of Buonaparte & He reminded me that 3 or 4 years ago I said that if Buonaparte should ever be in a great difficulty with his army He wd. run away from it.—

Sale of Famous Books

January 27.—Cadell called. We had some conversation respecting the sale of Books. He said Hannah More should leave off writing, as she now only recapitulates matter formerly published by Her only giving it another title. My father, said He, often repeated that an Author who had become famous for a work should stop there & not weaken His reputation by multiplicity.—He said, " Johnson's works have a very great sale, also Dr. Robertson's which no library can be without." He mentioned Dr. Clark's travels to Russia &c. are much in demand; the Copyright was

purchased by us, [and there] will be two additional volumes which He is preparing for the press. Mitford's *History of Greece* is a work of the highest authority, learned & faithful.—Gillies's *History of Greece* is an agreeable Book to read and sells well.—Goldsmith's works have a continued sale,—very popular.—

John Constable and Stothard

January 30.—Constable called yesterday morning. Being much acquainted with Stothard He expressed surprise that so ingenious an artist should be solely engrossed in imitating Rubens.—Stothard, on the contrary, equally disapproved Constable's choice of Landscape in painting simple scenes, Mills &c.—

Catholic Emancipation

January 31.—Wilson I dined with;—Dr. Maddy said that the Bishop of Norwich had informed Him that Dr. Cole, Vice Chancellor of Oxford, & Chaplain to the Duke of Clarence, had been much urged by His Royal Highness to support the Election of Lord Grenville to the Chancellorship of that University, & at the same time it was understood that the Prince Regent, & the Duke of Clarence were in favour of Catholic Emancipation. Lately, however, Dr. Cole had recd. another letter from the Duke informing Him that the Prince Regent & Himself now saw the Catholic question in a different light, & believed that, to allow the Catholics what they petitioned for wd. endanger the safety of the country. With these feelings the Duke requested Dr. Cole to support the Petition which was to be or had been agreed upon opposing the Catholic Claims.—To this Dr. Cole replied with much respect to the Duke, but not having seen cause for changing His opinion He must act agreeably to what He felt to be His duty & maintain the claims of the Catholics.—

CHAPTER XLVI

1813

London Silversmiths

February 2.—Theed spoke of His prospect as favorable. He spoke of the vast concerns of Rundle and Bridge, Silversmiths, with whom He is concerned in business, He making models to be executed in gold or silver.—He mentioned some inconvenience which He suffered from their intruding their opinions in matters of taste & design, & sd. He could always go one better if He had access to the Noblemen or Gentlemen who gave them Commissions and were easily led to adopt His opinions. He told me He was Six years abroad,—in Italy & Germany,—and that He was born in London.—

Germans and the Yoke of France

February 6.—L. Coxe called. He mentioned having a few days ago dined in Company with a German Baron, who, He sd. was with many others of His Countrymen, preparing to set off for Germany, having by private letters been informed that should the British Government support their cause a great effort wd. be made by the Germans to emancipate themselves from the yoke of France. The whole of Prussia might be relied on.—

Privileges of Associates

February 10.—Academy Council I went to with Dance who called upon me in His Carriage.—A letter from Landseer & Heath addressed to the President & Council was read, claiming as Members of the Academy the privilege of inspecting the Archives of the Society. An answer was agreed upon approving the conduct of the Secretary in refusing to shew them the Books (records) of the Society, and further, informing them that there was no law or regulation which gave to the Associates such a privilege, & further reminded them that the *government* of the *Society* was exclusively vested in the Academicians.—

A Charitable Painter

Northcote told me that W. Marlow died posessed of property which brought Him in £100 pr. annum. He had lived at Twickenham with

the family with whom He was at the time of His death, near 30 years.—He allowed them two guineas a week for His board & lodging, and latterly paid for the Bread that was consumed in the family. To His Sister, (an unmarried person) He allowed something,—and He was charitable, so as to expend the whole of His income.—He had long given up painting for an amusement more agreeable to Him, the making of Telescopes & other articles.—

A Club for Academicians Only

February 11.—We talked of establishing a Club of Academicians but not to admit Associates, as when the period of Elections comes on as well as at other times, the Associates are in a state unpleasant for themselves & for the Academicians. In such a situation they are not upon equal terms which to make such a Society comfortable should be the case, He suggested that it would be best to mention this proposal in the Council & for the Secretary to send a printed notice to the Academicians desiring that such as might be desirous to be of such a Society should express it to the Secretary. He thought that 18 or 20 Academicians wd. be sufficient to form a Club shd. no more offer themselves, and that the dinners might be once a month commencing in January and ending in June in each year. He sd. Philips, Owen and Richard Westmacott had expressed a wish to have a Club established.—It was agreed that I shd. propose it in the Council, & that I shd. use His name.—He sd. that those who had expressed a wish for it had not proposed it from a consideration of their not being *Senior Members*.—

A Secretary to the Admiralty

February 13.—Constable called. He told me Mr. Barrow, Secretary to the Admiralty, was born at Norwich, and came to London to obtain a livelihood by such means as He could. He was under these circumstances employed by Mrs. Allen, wife of Mr. Allen, of Finsbury square, a Brewer, and aunt to Constable, to teach Her daughter Geography. After some time He was engaged to go with Lord Macartney to China, and was fitted out at the expense of Mrs. Allen. After his return He was introduced to the notice of many persons & was eventually recommended to fill the station which He now holds, which produces to Him an income of towards £2000 pr. annum. His official business requires much writing. He sometimes signs His name 1000 times in a day. His eyes are weak and He is under much apprehension of becoming blind. Constable spoke of Him as being a most *grateful* man, and to Mrs. Allen He never fails to shew it in the greatest degree.

Academy Council I went to.—A Club of Academicians was proposed and agreed to unanimously, & an agreement to dine together 6 times in each year, namely the first Wednesday in every month from January to

June inclusive, was signed by all the members present, and was taken by Westmacott to obtain the signatures of Thomson, Owen, Callcott, Tresham, Philips & James Ward,—after which a printed letter with these names to be sent to each Academician.—

The Duke of Gloucester's Picture

February 15.—Sir Wm. Beechey called & shewed me a letter written to Him on the subject of the picture of *Niobe* by Richard Wilson, belonging to the Duke of Gloucester. His Royal Highness on his leaving Gloucester House in Upper Brook St. was desirous to part with this & some other pictures, and spoke to Beechey abt. it who recommended to have Sir F. Bourgeois and Loutherburgh consulted respecting it. Sir John Leicester had offered the Duke 800 guineas for it which He refused. Beechey had valued it at 500 guineas, but Bourgeois talked of 1000 guineas. The picture was sent to Harris, the picture dealer, & it was given out that Harris had given 1000 guineas for it. Sir George & Lady Beaumont & Lord Mulgrave saw it in Harris's posession, & Sir George there *questioned its originality*, or at least that if [it] were proved to be the original picture said It had been much painted upon. In this opinion Lady Beaumont concurred & spoke much about it, and the effect was that Harris disavowed the picture being His and after what Had been said abt. Harris having purchased it, the Duke felt that He could no longer place it in His own collection as it might be supposed that He had been in collusion with Harris to enhance the value of it.—Beechey now desired to have my opinion of the picture as it wd. be satisfactory to the Duke.—

Where Is It ?

Beechey lent me a small manuscript Book belonging to Lascelles Hoppner, a curious collection of remarks on pictures & on the modes of painting adopted by Vandyke,—Sir Peter Lely, &c. &c.—by a person who lived in the time of Lely,—Kneller &c.—

The Princess of Wales's Letter

We talked of the letter which the Princess of Wales had written to the Prince Regent & published. A. W. Callcott [R.A.] joined me in thinking [it] a very improper act in the Princess and in the contents of it there was much hypocritical cant.—He had heard that an investigation of the conduct of the Princess *since the period of* the former investigation wd. take place,—that Lady Oxford was Her confidante, and that *Brougham*, the Council, wrote the letter which was sent to the Prince Regent. He said He found the people in the country altogether ignorant of the conduct of the Princess & of Her Associations.—

A Costly Dinner

February 22.—Dr. Hayes spoke of a dinner lately given at the *Albion* in Aldersgate St. kept by Kay & His Brother, who are also Proprietors of the Castle & Falcon Inn in that street. Two gentlemen had made a bet of £50. The loser offered to pay the money; the other replied, "let it be expended in a dinner." It was then settled that each should invite 10 friends, and a dinner was ordered as above, & directions given to make it a handsome dinner. Such it was, with desert of luxuries, & the most costly foreign wines viz: Tokay, Burgundy, Champaigne &c. & such it ought to have been, for though only 23 persons sat down to the dinner the Bill presented by Messrs Kay amounted to £290, to the surprise of the person who had to pay it. This has been much talked of in the City, & it is supposed the House will be injured by this abuse of confidence in them.—

A Celebrated Musician

February 24.—Callcott called on me to day to thank me for having disposed of 10 Tickets for His Brother's benefit.—There was a great overflow of company, yet in the great room at the Opera Theatre in the Haymarket upwards of 1300 persons were admitted.—He said His Brother, Dr. Callcott, had been free from mental irritation from October last. He is at Bradford in Wiltshire, & lives with His Brother in law, a clergyman, and visits as usual when in health.

Callcott mentioned a curious circumstance peculiar to persons who have been in a state of insanity. They, after their recovery, never will allow that they have really been insane. His Brother, He sd. is of this opinion, and imputes His confinement to misapprehension of His real state.—He told me that Sir John Swinburne had purchased Turner's picture of "Mercury & Herse" for 550 guineas. It was exhibited in 1811.—

Bernadotte's Creditable Act

February 26.—There are many French Prisoners at Abergavenny. He mentioned a remarkable circumstance which does much credit to *Bernadotte*, the Crown Prince of Sweden. A French Officer, Col[l]. Pivote (or a name sounding like it) being desirous to be released from His imprisonment, sometime since wrote a letter to *Bernadotte* & directed it to Him in Sweden. In this letter He reminded Bernadotte that before the French Revolution He, Bernadotte was a Sergeant in a French Regiment commanded by Col[l]. Pivote's Father, and upon this circumstance founded a solicitation that Bernadotte would obtain from the British Government His discharge from imprisonment.

The letter had the desired effect; Bernadotte applied and an order came to Abergavenny to release Col[l]. Pivote with the further permission

for Him to go to *Bath* if He chose it previous to His leaving England.—Thus Bernadotte far from being ashamed of His former low situation was nobly minded in thus, perhaps, repaying some kindness which He might formerly have received.

Bone called after dinner. He talked of the proceedings respecting the Princess of Wales, & thought it would be well to have the business of Her conduct fully investigated.—He had *heard Her* spoken of as being very coarse in Her manners.—He thought it a hard situation for Her to be so much excluded from intercourse with the Royal Family & it wd. be best to have it explained and settled.—He noticed *Lawrence's* name having been mentioned, with that of Sir Sidney Smith,—Captn. Manby &c.—

The situation of the Royal Family in consequence of the disagreement between the Prince Regent & the Princess of Wales was talked [about], & it was said that the Princess Charlotte, their daughter, is decidedly attached to Her mother, and would not be introduced at Court by any other person. It was also sd. that she is of a violent & wilful temper.

Formation of the Earth

Dr. Anthony Carlisle I dined with.—The changes which have taken place in the formation of the earth of this our Globe was a subject of conversation. Carlisle said, that it had been proved by examination into the state of the earth and its contents, that most of it had at some period, been under water.—It also appeared from bones discovered that there was a time when there were Animals in the world now not known, and *that* before *Man* was created. The Mosaic acct. sd. He, is not contradicted by the belief that the world existed in some form & with some creatures in it before the creation of man.—He said, that a Chinese work on Eclipses had been studied & calculated by the late Hon. Henry Cavendish, F.R.S. who had shewn that the Planets which caused some of them must have commenced their course 8000 years ago.—

Flax Growing in England

February 28.—He spoke of a great discovery which has within the last 2 or 3 years been made by a person (an Englishman) whereby flax may be grown in this country to be equal if not superior to that grown in *Russia* which forms a great article of Commerce to the advantage of that country. The Flax grown by this person is so fine in quality, that lace to equal that of Brussells &c. may be made of it.—

This Discovery is now under the consideration of a Committee of the House [of Commons] to determine whether an Act of Parliament shall not be passed, to preserve to Him the exclusive right of growing it after His method, witht. obliging Him to expose His process which He must do if He takes out a patent.—

Lord Cawdor's Unpopularity

Wilson's I dined at.—Williams spoke of the unpopularity of Lord Cawdor in Pembrokeshire.—He attempted to return members, one for that County, and one for Pembroke, & was supported by the Lords Milford & Kensington, but the Country Gentlemen opposed Him & brought in Sir John Owen, and another person. Lord Cawdor then petitioned the House of Commons to involve Sir John Owen in additional expense. Lord & Lady Cawdor carry themselves *high* which is one cause of their unpopularity.—

CHAPTER XLVII

1813

Princess Charlotte's Letters

March 1.—W. Owen called. He spoke of the present situation of the Royal Family in consequence of the difference which subsists between the Prince Regent & His Wife. He understood the case wd. be brought before Parliament.—Sir William Scott told Owen that a correspondence had taken place between the young Princess Charlotte & the Hon. Miss Keith, daughter of Lord Keith by His first wife. It being believed that this correspondence was not of a proper kind, the Prince Regent demanded of the Princess Charlotte that He might see the letters. This she refused, and in consequence the Prince Regent ordered Her Cabinet to be broke open, & the correspondence being read it proved to be as was suspected. The Princess Charlotte was enraged at this being done & said She never had much respect for the Prince Regent, & that this had become less since He had acted so unlike a gentleman.—

Academy Club's First Dinner

Thom, one of the Proprietors of the Freemasons tavern called and I communicated to Him the intention of several Academicians [to meet] at that Tavern. I mentioned to Him the terms, viz: Seven Shillings & 6d. pr. head for dinner,—one shilling, He proposed, for some fruit, and eighteen pence per Head for Coffee & Tea, and further that the first meeting would be on Wednesday, the 3d. inst. the dinner to be on the table at 6 oClock.—He received the order with thanks for it.

March 3.—Club of Royal Academicians I went to; the first meeting, at the Freemason's tavern which had been fixed upon for the purpose.—We dined at Six oClock precisely. Owen in the chair; He being the Member who first wrote His name on the list of Members of the Club: Thomson being next in succession was His Deputy.—The dinner was approved, and all present appeared to be well satisfied, and there seemed to be general satisfaction at the establishment of the Club.—Westmacott was appointed Treasurer to the Club.—Tea was served at nine oClock.

An Uncertain Marriage

March 6.—Captain Dale called, to obtain from me such information as I could give him respecting a marriage which took place between my late fellow pupil Mr. Thomas Jones who was studying landscape painting under the direction of Richd. Wilson when I was placed under that great master. Jones went to Italy and remained in that country several years. Abt. the year 1782 or 3, He returned to England, and brought with Him a person who went by the name of Mrs. Jones and two children, daughters, the issue of that connexion.—

In the course of a few years His eldest Brother died and He became posessed of the family estate and retired to Penkerrig in Radnorshire, the Mansion of His family. In 1783 He died leaving two daughters only to whom He bequeathed the whole of His estates in equal proportions. They were soon married; one of them, the youngest, to Captain Dale; but neither of them long survived after Her marriage. Abt. Half the estate which came to Captn. Dale by this marriage was *entailed* upon *lawful issue.* Thomas Jones left a Brother, the next in succession, who was a Clergyman. He died abt. two years ago never having made any claim upon the entail. After His death, however, Mr. Myddleton Jones, the next Brother in succession claimed that estate which was entailed, upon the plea that neither of the daughters were *legitimate*, no marriage of their Father & Mother having taken place till after their coming to England and about Six years after that period.—

Proof of the Marriage

To prove that a marriage did take place between them in Italy, and at *Naples*, Captain Dale told me He has in His posession a Certificate of the baptism of His wife which was given to Her by Her father. It is written in Italian, and states that at a time specified . . . the daughter of Thomas Jones, and of Mary Monke, His wife, was born in Naples or baptised in a Church in that city.

Captain Dale said that abt. Six years after their coming to England Mr. & Mrs. Jones were married according to the forms of the Protestant Church, at the particular request of the Mother of Mr. Jones who was a religious woman, and could not be satisfied with the marriage ceremony having only been performed according to the rites of a foreign church, Captain Dale believed that no marriage between them took place in Italy till after the birth of the first child, and consequently Mr. Jones had no certificate but for the second child.—Captain Dale added, that Mrs. Jones was a native of Denmark, and He understood left that country with a family removed to Italy.—

It was not in my power to give Captain Dale any specific information on this subject. I told Him all I knew was from report; that I had understood that Mrs. Jones had been married before she formed a connexion with Mr. Jones: that on their coming to England, He had lodgings where He carried on His profession, and that she with Her Children, lived in privacy (in London Street) which might be supposed to be owing to His apprehending that His relations would disapprove His having formed an improvident connexion: and that the late Mr. Marchi was in habits of great intimacy with them, and, had He been living could probably have given much information on the subject, and that much of what I had heard from him had fallen from my memory.—I said it appeared to me that it would be best for him to get the Certificate verified by sending it to Naples, which He said He should do, but His Solicitor was doubtful whether the proceedings at Law would allow Him time for that purpose.—

CHAPTER XLVIII

1813

The Spanish Army

March 8.—Wilson's I dined at. Col[l]. Williamson told me that He left the Army in Portugal last month. He said that the Spaniards would never bring an efficient army to act against the French and that were the British troops to be withdrawn the resistance of the Spaniards would be reduced to flying parties acting in the mountainous and difficult parts of the Country. The Spaniards, said He, are so divided, so operated upon by jealousy amongst themselves that they will never act with unanimity, and they hate both the French & the English, & when they do express approbation of the latter it is from a hope that they will drive the French out of the country, & that it wd. be followed by their taking themselves away; as men, said He, the Spaniards are a fine people, but in their present state, as soldiers, little dependence can be had upon them.—

He saw General Ballasteros at Gibraltar & they dined together. He spoke highly of Him, & said He had done more for the Spanish Cause than any other person, & had suffered much from His exertions in the service. He is about 41 or 42 years old, but looks older, the effect of much fatigue & exposure. His sincerity against the French is undoubted, but He, like others, allowed jealousy of foreign commanders taking the lead in Spain to influence Him in His military notions.—

British and French Troops

In speaking of the comparison of the qualities of troops of different countries as manifested when they come into action, He said it was allowed by the French Officers that when the British & French troops met in *equal numbers,* whether of Cavalry or Infantry the latter could not stand against them.—In making up an Army, He said, a certain number of veteran troops were material, but He added, " I like troops who come new to the field, men who have never seen action,—they are the men for a dash,—for a spirited attack."

LADY CHARLOTTE DOUGLAS
Wife of Gen. Sir John Douglas

To face p. 156

We talked of the discussions respecting the Princess of Wales which He said, was yesterday a subject of conversation at the *Antiquary Club*.— The impropriety of Her conduct ill-becoming a person of Her rank, has caused many stories to be circulated, instances of Her singularities and want of proper consideration. Sir John Douglas and His wife having been much spoken of particularly the latter on account of Her evidence during "the Delicate investigation" in 1806. Lysons gave me this acct. of them.

Sir John Douglas is an Officer in the Marine Service & was knighted for His gallant behaviour at the Siege of Acre and at El Arish where He was with Sir Sydney Smith. Lady Douglas is a daughter of the late Lieutenant Colonel Hopkinson of the 15th regt. of Dragoons. Col[l]. Hopkinson resided a considerable time at the Parsonage House at Hempstead near Gloucester, and He (Lysons) had known Her from the time she was a girl. In consequence of Sir John Douglas living on Blackheath He and Lady Douglas became acquainted with the Princess of Wales, which having commenced became an intercourse of great familiarity. Sir Sydney Smith was occasionally a visitor at Sir John's and became one of the party, and His Society was very agreeable to the Princess who, it was thought felt jealous that He paid more attention to Lady Douglas than to Herself.

Anonymous Letters

Anonymous letters were recd. by Sir John in which drawings were inclosed and tending to represent the intercourse of Sir Sydney with Lady Douglas to be such as to excite jealousy in the mind of Sir John. It was said that these letters were traced to the Princess, which caused Lady Douglas to retort upon Her the accusation of having had an illegitimate child. An opinion is, said Lysons, that the Princess did endeavour to impress upon the mind of Lady Douglas that the Child which was seen in the House was Her own, knowing that if this should come to the ear of the Prince of Wales and irritate Him so as to cause an enquiry she (the Princess) could easily disprove it.—

Sir Thomas Lawrence and the Princess

March 11.—Lawrence called in the evening.—We talked of the late discussions respecting the Ps. of W. He had been at Birmingham, and He found in the country, as well as very generally in London, a disposition to make allowances for the levities and what may be called [her] indecorous conduct from the consideration of Her being a foreigner and accustomed to live in a Court where probably the manners were licentious. I observed to Him that it was very proper to admit this, but it must also be recollected that she has long been resident in this country and cannot but know what kind of conduct is most likely to be approved, yet from all accounts she is

regardless of the characters of those with whom she associates, and continues to indulge in levities of behaviour highly indecorous, and such as [to] make Her a very unfit person to be an example for Her daughter.—He spoke of a Lady who had been introduced to the Princess Charlotte at Windsor, and said " the manners of the young Princess were those of a Hoyden."—

March 14.—Lysons called & I saw Him. He continued of opinion that the Princess of Wales either was with Child and miscarried, or that she endeavoured to make Lady Douglas believe she was with Child, and that though Lady Douglas gave some of Her evidence apparently inconsiderately yet that what she swore to was Her belief.—

Lady Oxford and Lord Byron

He told me that Lord & Lady Oxford have so involved themselves by their great expences & by His gaming at Newmarket, that they have found it expedient to go abroad, & propose to go to Sicily &c. and are to be accompanied by Lord Byron.—

CHAPTER XLIX

1813

Great French Losses

March 19.—Robt. Smirke called in the evening. He said He had dined a few days ago with Mr. Hamilton, Under Secretary of State to Lord Castlereagh, who mentioned that He had received a letter from Sir Robert Wilson, dated at Wilna in Poland giving an account of the vast destruction of the French Army. He stated that in one place there were the bodies of 16000 men which had been collected together for the purpose of having them burnt so soon as they should be able to obtain fuel sufficient for the purpose. There were in other places similar heaps of dead bodies. He described the streets of Wilna as being almost impassable so filled they were with the dead bodies of men, and Horses, and with broken carriages &c. His letter was dated Jany. 7th. soon after the French had passed through that town. Sir Robert had passed the whole of the Campaign with the Russian Army, and though a slim, thin figure, had never had any other covering than His Common Cloaths and a great coat, but had been in perfect health.—

Distressed State of Spain

Mr. Colin Alexander Mackenzie* was one of the party at Mr. Hamilton's. He was sometime ago employed by government to effect an exchange of prisoners with Buonaparte, but failed. He had lately been employed to execute a Commission in Spain and arrived from thence a few days before. He had been at [Alicante] & from thence had to go through Spain to join Lord Wellington. To effect this He went round by the Coast, and by Seville. He found the Country through which He passed in a most distressed state. For many days together He could obtain no animal food, and often thought himself happy if He could procure eggs.—On arriving at a village or small town [he asked] for an Inn,—the answer was " there was none," and He was usually reduced to the necessity of applying to the Priest or Curate who he found willing but little able to afford Him a supply of that which He wanted, and, as He required two or

* See Vol. VI. and note.

three Horses to enable him to proceed, He was frequently obliged to wait while messengers went into the neighbouring country to procure them.

Soult's Large Army

The state of poverty & want was extreme. Soult, the French General, had a large army which He could not subsist witht. spreading it over a large extent of country, which afforded during the last autumn a favorable opportunity to the Spanish General Ballasteros with a much smaller army to have destroyed in detail much of Soult's force, but his jealous pride being affected by the Chief Command in Spain being given to Lord Wellington He would not act.—

Wellington Enjoying Himself

At *Freynada* on the frontiers of Portugal, Mr. Mackenzie found Lord Wellington, who was passing His [time] very pleasantly, chiefly in hunting. At this place there was no appearance of an Army, nothing more than what seemed like an Ensign's guard. The Army was stationed in various places forming altogether an arrangement, and every movement of the enemy was immediately known by His Lordship. The Army was plentifully supplied with provisions, and was the great mart for everything of the kind. When Mr. Mackenzie left Freynada, He found on His way from thence the country of Portugal similar to that He had experienced in Spain.—

Who Was To Blame ?

March 20.—Cadell called, and talked of the Princess of Wales's business. He said " Who is the Cause of all this ? "—I paused—He proceeded " The Princess Herself to be sure." He then took from his pocket a printed copy of " The Book " as it was called containing the evidence given before the 4 Lords Spencer, Grenville, Ellenborough, & Erskine, in 1806 and read several passages from the evidence of Lady Douglas, which exhibited the Princess in a very profligate light.—Cadell said of some of the passages " these do not look like inventions." *

Sir David Wilkie and Models

March 28.—J. Lane [artist] called. He was last night at Kensington at Wilkie's lodgings. Wilkie had taken a House near where He lodged and expected His mother & sister from Scotland to reside with him in it. Lane said Wilkie was finishing His picture of " Blindman's Buff " for the Prince of Wales. About three months ago Wilkie considered the picture to be in

* This refers to "The Delicate Investigation" into the conduct of the Princess. The enquiry ended in her exoneration, but she was rebuked by the judges for " Levity of Manner." See Vol. III., pp. 256–7.

a finished state but had the mortification to find that those who saw it did not appear to be much struck with it. The fact was that Wilkie had painted his picture without *having models to sit for Him*, & consequently there was not in it that truth which was seen in some of His former pictures. In consequence He sought for models and went to work again upon the picture & has greatly improved it.

Lane said that a considerable time since at Lord de Dunstanvilles where Wilkie & Lane dined with His Lordship, Wilkie insisted much that models were not necessary, and brought Lord D. to the same way of thinking. Lane, however, contended against Wilkie's opinion who has now been obliged to acknowledge His error.

James Boswell [the Younger] told me that the late Mr. E. Malone [Shakespearean scholar], our friend, had been declining in health for Six months before He died. His Physicians, Sir H. Halford, & Dr. Blaine recommended to Him to try country air, and He went to Lady Thomond's at Taplow for three weeks, but returned in no better state. He then fancied He had taken too much exercise at Taplow, but Dr. Blaine, speaking of Him, said, It was of no consequence what He did as it was a breaking up of the constitution. He had no local complaint, it was general weakness and gradual decay.—

The British Army in Spain

Dr. Hayes read to me two letters written by a young Surgeon from Portugal, in which He described the sufferings of the British Army during their retreat from Spain to have been extreme.—He complained much of the injustice done to the Army by Lord Wellington in His address to the generals commanding corps, in having asserted that the Soldiers suffered few privations.—

The Prince Regent has been in the habit of being cupped for more than twenty years past, and has been cupped more than a Hundred times. Such is the fullness of the Princes habit that twenty ounces of blood are taken from Him at a time. This is the consequence of the Prince's mode of living.—

CHAPTER L

1813

Turner's Conditions

March 29.—Academy Council I went to, myself in the Chair.—Ward said Turner meant to send one picture only & that conditionally viz: He having an assurance that it should be placed in a situation to be named by himself.—This, the Members of Council now present thought a very improper demand, & that no such agreement ought to be made with any member.—

The Artist and the Countess

March 31.—Bone called & told me of the improper conduct of Douglas Guest to the Countess of Berkeley respecting a picture He painted for Her representing a Ship at Sea in distress in which she was on Her return from Madeira.—She gave him 100 guineas for the picture, but He having a small portrait of Her Ladyship and a painted sketch a study for the picture, was offered £200 (He said) for the use of them by a person who professed to have written a life of the Countess and wished for the Portrait & the Sketch to make prints from them. The Countess, however, stopped the publication by purchasing what had been written or by some other means.—

His Unmanly Conduct

Guest then signified that He intended to exhibit the Portrait and the sketch at the Royal Academy to which Lady Berkeley had a great objection as it would bring Her name again before the public. The Revd. Mr. Hughes, Tutor to Her children, who had been with Her at Madeira called upon Guest to prevent it, & asked Him what He would require to give up the portrait and the sketch; Guest replied that He should rate the portrait at 30 guineas, and the sketch at 160 or 170 guineas, making up a sum equal to what had been mentioned to Him by the person who had written Her life. This monstrous conduct of Guest was felt as it should be and it then became the object of Lady Berkeley to apply to the Royal Academy to have the portrait & sketch refused exhibition if offered by Guest.—

I told Bone that a Resolution was moved in Council in 1805 by Hoppner

and seconded by Thomson, and with Bourgeois, they outnumbered Smirke and myself, and it was Resolved to the effect that the Academy should not interfere between the Artist & His employer if contrary to the wish of the latter the former should choose to exhibit a picture. All that could be done would now be to obtain the rescinding the Resolution, which I would move, and that should the Countess choose to write to the Council, or Mr. Hughes prefer calling upon me I would attend to the business.—

The Picture Not Admitted

Howard I called on, and witht. mentioning names told him the substance of the above, wishing to have a Council on Friday next. He at first, to my great surprise, said that He did not feel that the Academy could interfere between an Artist & His employer, respecting the exhibiting works; but on my further representation of the disgrace which such acts as I had mentioned wd. bring on the profession of which the Academy should be the guardian as far as they were able to be so, He said He then saw it in a different light.—

On April 2nd the R.A. Council unanimously resolved not to admit the pictures.

Russian Successes

C. Offley & Smirke dined with me at ¼ *before* 7.—We had some conversation respecting the progress of the Russians in Germany, in which Smirke took the principal part, and expressed the strongest feeling of joy at Hamburgh having again become free. He afterwards noticed to me that C. Offley, as usual, expressed no satisfaction at the change which had taken place in the fortunes of Buonaparte.—Smirke mentioned that Robert Smirke [Junior] being at Lowther when the late Lord Melville was there, His Lordship speaking of the state of Europe and of Political *Predictors*, such as the Editions of opposition newspapers, & persons who were always looking to the gloomy side, said "When they predict misfortune to the armies which oppose Buonaparte, they do not say what they really expect and believe, so much as what they wish."—

CHAPTER LI

1813

Coleridge and The Brewer

April 1.—Sir G. Beaumont I dined with.—Lady Beaumont gave me an account of an interview which Coleridge, the Poet, had with Mr. Samuel Whitbread previous to the bringing forward of Coleridge's play which was acted last winter. Mr. Whitbread appointed that Coleridge shd. call upon him at half past 8 oClock in the morning, and received the Poet while He was shaving in order to save time to both. Whitbread talked of dramatick poetry & as Coleridge said very foolishly, and after sometime by a motion of his hand signified that Coleridge might depart, which He did much disatisfied with the hauteur and self importance of Whitbread.—

Lord Oxford's Debts

April 3.—Wm. Westall called. He spoke of Lady Oxford* & said she had told Him that she was going with Lord Oxford to Sardinia to live retired, that they were to meet Lord Byron at Athens in about 12 months, and that [they] expected to be absent from England about three years; also that in nine years Lord Oxford's estate would be cleared of debts (said to be £200,000) & that Lord Harley when of age would have an estate of £30,000 pr. annum. She added that their difficulties & distresses had principally arisen from the conduct of Her Brother, Mr. Scott.—She said Lord Harley was to be left under the care of a Tutor, and in a little time was to be sent to Westminster School. Lady Jane Harley and the younger children were to go with them.—

The Great Prince

Smirke called in the evening. He was affected by Lord Holland having in the House of Lords yesterday called Buonaparte "*The Great Prince* upon the Throne of France," thinking such a manner of speaking of that Tyrannical Destroyer highly unjust and impolitick.—

* See Vol. II. and note.

April 7.—Academicians' Club I went to.—Owen spoke to me of Sir Willm. Scott, who at 68 years of age is going to marry the Dowager Marchioness of Sligo, a fine woman 45 or 6 years of age.—Sir William told Owen that He never knew the Marchioness till November last. He in His judicial capacity as judge of the Admiralty Court, condemned Her son, the Marquiss of Sligo to 6 months imprisonment and a fine of £5000 for enticing Seamen from one of His Majesty's Ships in the Mediterranean.—Sir William also told Owen that He was to have been married to the late Mrs. Palmer of Hurst (ci-devant Miss Bowles*) had she lived,—and He had suffered much in His mind when she died which was on the 12th. of June last.—

Sir David Wilkie's Partiality for Scotsmen

Ward complained much to Smirke of Wilkie's conduct in arranging pictures today,—of His partiality for everything coming from a Scotchman,—and for a picture by William *Mulready*; that having placed His own picture in the Center on the chimney side He wd. sit a long time together before it; that He put Sir G. Beaumont's upright picture of *light breaking behind a tree* next to it, but finding it destroyed the force of his picture He removed it.—Ward was so ill satisfied with the effect of Mulready's picture which Wilkie placed opposite the door, that He thought of bringing it before the Council.—

Prussia Declares War Against France

Lawrence told me that He had seen Major Genl. Sir Chas. Stewart this day, who said that He was going immediately to Berlin; that the Emperor Alexander, and the King of Prussia had met & the latter had declared War against France; & that Denmark had opened Her Ports to English & other vessels; & that a body of Swedish troops had landed in Pomerania.—The Duke of Cumberland told Owen that He was going to Germany, but not in any military or political capacity.—

Sir George Beaumont and Turner

April 8.—John Constable called, & I told him his landscape sent for Exhibition was much approved.—Callcott called, & told me that He declined exhibiting this year thinking it prudent so to do. He said He had not sold a picture in the Exhibition in the last three years, or received a commission arising from it. He said Sir George Beaumont's persevering abuse of His pictures had done him harm; that He had reason to expect

* Miss Jane Bowles, whose portrait by Reynolds is in the Wallace Collection. See Vol. VI., p. 156.

that Lord Brownlow would have purchased His large upright landscape exhibited two years ago, but was prevented by Sir George's remarks upon it.—The picture was however twelve months afterwards bought by Sir Richard Hoare.—

He said Turner had also suffered from the same cause, & had not sold a picture in the Exhibition for sometime past. Turner called upon Callcott at Kensington a while since and then said He did not mean to exhibit from the same cause that prevented Callcott, but He has since altered His mind and determined not to give way before Sir George's remarks.

CHAPTER LII

1813

The Scots' College, Paris

April 11.—Wm. Westall told me that the collection of papers and letters which King James the Second lodged in the Scotch College at Paris were removed from thence at some period of the French Revolution and carried to Rome from whence they had been lately brought to England, having been purchased from an *Abbe* who had them in his posession. The Abbe was offered a Sum of money or an annuity for them. He chose the latter & died in three months after the bargain was completed. The Collection filled three chests. The Prince Regent was the Purchaser.

This Collection was the object of the late Right Honble. Charles Fox, when He was in Paris, in 1802, to endeavour to discover them. Not being able to obtain information respecting them it was concluded that they were destroyed during the storm of the Revolution. The Prince Regent has committed them to the care of Sir James Mackintosh, to put them in some form for public information. A friend of Wm. Westalls has had free admission and speaks of there being matter highly interesting. Among other articles there is a life of James 2nd. written by himself, and advice to His Son in case He shd. succeed to the throne of England, recommending to him moderation & gentle conduct.

Stuart Intrigue

There are also letters from many persons of distinction in England which shew what intriguing there was & how much disposition there was to restore the expelled family.—The Queen saw part of this Collection a few days ago & expressed a desire to make extracts from some parts. Westall's friend remarked to Her Majesty, that it would be a laborious undertaking and offered to do it for her, which she declined, saying, "I am accustomed to such work; I have 400 pages of extracts which I have [copied] from various works."—

French Liberality

April 12.—L. Coxe mentioned that Maddison the American President is a man of small fortune. Notwithstanding His House is sumptuously

furnished in the *French taste* & His Wife has a profusion of finery,— Diamonds &c., which it is believed are the effects of *French liberality*.

Prince Regent and Royal Dukes

April 15.—Sir G. Beaumont called. We talked about the Arts, and I told Him that Callcott forbore from exhibiting on account of the persevering run of criticism against Him, and that Turner intended the same but afterwards determined to exhibit. He said that personally He liked Callcott, but did not approve His manner of colouring His pictures, nor His imitating Turner; indeed there was no knowing the pictures of one from those of the other.—

He spoke of the Prince Regent and the Royal Dukes, particularly the Duke of Cumberland, with respect to the Army; of the great expense Officers were subject to for dress &c.—which was changed as their whims varied. The Officers & Men were also made ridiculous by it & on Service could scarcely be distinguished from the French troops. Lord Wellington had objected to it.—

April 16.—J. Aytoun told me that He had recd. a letter from the Revd. Stanier Clarke written at Carlton House in which He stated that Lord Walpole went from Petersburgh to Vienna after the French disasters, & was in that City three weeks upon a political mission before *Otto*, the French Ambassador discovered that He was there. Buonaparte in consequence recalled Otto.—

A Well-known Publisher

April 26.—Ackerman's I went to with James Ward after tea, & saw him & Pyne & Heaphy who were in Ackerman's Museum room. Ward told me that Ackerman is a German who came into this country in a low situation & having opened a print shop has gradually risen & become a publisher of Books with prints & is supposed to be worth £20,000.—

April 28.—I went to the Royal Academy. Mr. West came in the evening and a Council was formed. Mr. Raeburn was admitted & recd. His Diploma as an *Associate*.

Sir Thomas Lawrence's Critical Powers

May 2.—Lawrence called. He had much reason to be pleased with the notice taken of His pictures in the Exhibition yesterday. Lord Ellenborough apologised for not having called upon Him while Lady Ellenborough was sitting to him for the picture in the Exhibition, and added that He had regretted that she had not sat at an earlier period when Her appearance had more advantages but when He saw this picture He had no longer reason to lament that it had been delayed.—

Lawrence told me that Mr. William Sotheby had written a tragedy, & had read it to Him in consequence of Kemble having spoken of His (Lawrence's) critical powers. Lawrence made several remarks which caused Mr. Sotheby to put the *manuscript* into his hands. Lawrence recommended several alterations & among others that one of the characters, a female, should be changed into a male character. Sotheby adopted His ideas, & was so much impressed with a sense of His just taste & judgment, as to cause him to speak of it to Mrs. Wilmot. She had a similar work in hand, which she also submitted to His judgement, & Miss Joanna Baillie has also solicited His observations.—He spoke very highly of Mrs. Wilmot as being a woman posessed of extraordinary talents.—

Missionaries and Bishops

May 4.—I had company to dinner.—Much conversation took place respecting the new India Bill. Lestock Wilson thought the India Company had nothing to fear from it, but that the Merchants [and] Adventurers, wd. be ruined by their speculations. With respect to Missionaries going for the purpose of converting them to Christianity He apprehended no danger from it, but He thought if a regular Church establishment shd. be formed with a Bishop or Bishops &c. with all the show attendant upon it, an insurrection of the natives wd. be the consequence & the English wd. be driven out of the country.—

May 5.—Constable called, & talked abt. the Exhibition,—and asked whether He shd. put his name down as a Candidate for the situation of Associate, He being inclined so to do to keep His name before the Academicians.—I told him I thought it advisable for Him to put His name down.—

Holland House

Westmacott shewed me a note which He had recd. from Lady Holland requesting to see the Exhibition on a Sunday; that she would come *alone*; & that Her application was made because she was an invalid. He sd. He was sensible that Her request could not be granted. He spoke of Holland House as being a most agreeable place to visit at, the temper of Lord Holland being the best possible, like, said He, to that of His Uncle Lord Ossory. He sd. there was no House at which Artists were received with more respect.—

A New Play

Lawrence told me that yesterday He dined with Mr. Sotheby & there met Sir G. & Lady Beaumont, Mr. P. Knight &c. He thought Sir George looked much altered. In the evening they all went to Mrs. Wilmots & there heard a play (a tragedy) written by Her read for *Young*, the Actor, who Lawrence thought, read it very ill. His principal fault seemed to be

his having fixed upon one particular character as if He had been the actor of it, and laying stress upon this He made the other characters subservient to it.—Lord & Lady Grey,—Sir H. Englefield & several others were present & much approbation was expressed, Lawrence thought the Play wd. be well received if brought upon the stage. The company did not separate till two oClock.—

Insular Education and Barbarity

Westmacott told me yesterday that Lord Pembroke is of opinion that in respect of *manners* the next age will be barbarous in this country, chiefly owing to the young men of family and fortune being confined to a *home* education in consequence of the Continent being shut up from them by the power of Buonaparte. Their manners in consequence become careless & neglected they being accustomed to none of that restraint & those attentions which must be paid by those who mix with foreign Society. Under these circumstances, however, Lord Pembroke sent His Son, Lord Herbert, to such parts as He could reside at, and has now sent him to Spain for the same purpose.—

May 7.—Raeburn called; a complimentary visit. I told him how highly Thomson had spoke of the pictures which Thomson saw at His house in Edinburgh.—

CHAPTER LIII

1813

Reynolds Exhibition

May 8.—British Institution Commemoration of Sir Joshua Reynolds I went to at ½ past 4 oClock, and found in the Exhibition rooms a considerable number of persons assembled. Abt. 5 oClock the Prince Regent came & went round the rooms attended by the Marquiss of Stafford. A Covered way was made on the ground floor of the building for the company to pass through King's place to Willis's rooms where the dinner-table was placed & cards were laid with the names of persons as they were to sit. This was done by a Committee viz: Sir T. Bernard, [Rev. William] Holwell Carr &c.—

After contemplating the pictures for sometime I went to the dinner room where were many looking for their seats. At a quarter before 7 the dinner being placed, the Prince Regent came from the Exhibition rooms attended by the Marquess of Stafford &c. & took His seat as President in a gilt chair, having Flaxman's model of Sir Joshua Reynolds placed behind him. The dinner was well served—two courses—it lasted more than an Hour. A Royal band of Musick was stationed at the bottom of the room & played soft airs during the dinner. After the dinner was removed a desert was set,—Ices, Oranges &c. The wines were Champaigne, Claret, Madeira, Hock—Port &c. The toasts were given by a person standing behind the Prince. *The King* was the first.—

Admiration Expressed

When the Royal Academy was given Mr. West arose & made a speech, as did the Earl of Aberdeen when the Society of Antiquariens was given. About ½ past 9 oClock the Prince Regent rose & returned to the Exhibition rooms, and the President's Chair was left vacant, and one toast only was given after which the company returned to the Exhibition rooms where Ladies had begun to assemble. Here in the mixture of company conversation prevailed everywhere apparently respecting the pictures which were arranged for public view, and the greatest admiration was expressed.—

A Wealthy Corn Merchant

Mr. Claude Scott, the great Corn Merchant, sat on my right hand & was very communicative. He said He retired from business several years

ago having acquired a considerable fortune, & He thought there was a time when a man should stop contented.—That His situation near Bromley in Kent did not suit His wife's constitution, which caused him to remove to Dorsetshire where He posesses abt. 5000 acres of land & employs a great number of poor people. That He made a condition with His wife for them to live in London 4 months annually, where He has an opportunity of uniting with others in supporting plans intended for public utility, and that the British Institution is one of those plans.

He said He had only one Son who married & had with [his] wife £300,000 "every penny." He lives at the House near Bromley; & His estate joins that of Mr. J. Wells at Bickley. He wished me to visit His Son whenever I might happen to be at Bickley; & said "He wd. be proud to have the honour of seeing me." He noticed my temperance in eating.—

Sheridan and His Portrait

I had conversation with Lord Ashburnham respecting my not having called upon the Duke of Montrose for many years. I told him the cause that circumstances having prevented me from doing it for a considerable time, I then felt it a difficulty as I could not assign the reason & on that acct. abstained from calling. He sd. He wd. mention it to the Duke who He was sure was one who would perfectly understand it.—

Mr. Wilberforce did not dine but came in the evening full dressed having been somewhere in company. While I was conversing with him Mr. Sheridan came up & joined in conversation. He spoke of His own portrait painted by Sir J. Reynolds, & sd. Sir Joshua reckoned it to be one of his best pictures.—

Thomson spoke to me of the report that Lord Grey had said "The Exhibition of Sir J. Reynolds's pictures wd. lower his reputation." On the contrary His Lordship had only apprehended that the pictures being in various states of preservation that the mass of the people wd. not be able fully to appreciate their excellence.

Lawrence's Appreciation

May 9.—Lawrence called full of admiration of the pictures by Sir J. Reynolds at the British Institution. He spoke of the inefficiency of design & composition unless the painting part, colouring, were added, which in these works was seen in its highest excellence. He dwelt upon the fine tones and the solemnity which prevails in the works of this great Artist.—He admitted that great honour was shewn to the memory of departed genius by the meeting yesterday, the Society consisting of the representative of the King, and many noblemen &c. but He would not allow that there is proper encouragement for living artists,—and spoke of Buonaparte as having done more than has been done in this country.—

Selfish Stewards

May 11.—Lysons called. He spoke of the conduct of the Stewards appointed to act at the British Institution in the management of the com-

memoration dinner and the Exhibition of the pictures painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds. The two evenings preceding the day of the dinner Ladies were admitted, and for the purpose of introducing them and a certain number of gentlemen the Stewards voted to themselves 14 tickets each, but it was their intention to exclude the Life Governors viz: Subscribers of £50 each, from these evening meetings. Lysons being apprised of it applied to Lord Dundas & to Holwell Carr, & remonstrated against this proposed exclusion & did it with effect so far as to obtain personal admission for the Governors, but not the privilege of introducing anyone.—The Stewards were—The Marquiss of Stafford, Sir G. Beaumont, Revd. Holwell Carr, Mr. C. Long, Sir Thos. Bernard, R. P. Knight &c.—

A Buonapartist Wine Merchant

May 12.—C. Offley talked of political matters in which His partiality to Buonaparte was manifest & his depreciation of the successes of the Russians signified. His object evidently was to have Buonaparte's power so extended as to absorb all the inferior powers, if not all the powers of Germany, so that the whole shd. be under *one government*, which in his notion wd. prevent contention & wars :—France to be the power to govern Europe.—Such was the thinking of this Politician.—

May 13.—Constable called. He spoke with great delight of the pleasure He had in being at the dinner on Saturday last. His Uncle, Mr. D. P. Watts who gave him the ticket for admission said to Sir Thomas Bernard, that in so doing He had given Him something worth 100 guineas.

R. Price's I dined at.—R. Price spoke of the state of Commerce being most flourishing particularly in the sale of all Colonial produce. Coarse sugars have risen from 30 shillings pr. Hundred to 100 Shillings,—Coffee in proportion. Such vast exports have been made to the Baltic & Germany, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has found it necessary to allow the importation of foreign Sugars.—

Catholic Emancipation

The Catholic question was spoken of. D. Lysons sd. that from what He could learn should Mr. Grattan's bill pass the House of Commons it wd. not pass the House of Lords. Mr. John Blackburne, member for Lancashire told my Brother Richard on Wednesday last that Mr. Canning the night before in the House of Commons, spoke three Hours, opposing a motion of Sir John Hippesley for examining the laws as they at present stand against the Roman Catholics & for further information respecting them. It was He sd. the best speech Mr. Canning ever made & He carried with Him the mass of Junior members who all called out for liberality towards the Catholics.—Mr. Blackburne acting with Lord Sidmouth was not inclined to go the lengths proposed by Mr. Grattan & Mr. Canning.—

CHAPTER LIV

1813

Battle at Lutzen

May 15.—Sir George & Lady Beaumont called. He told me that at the British Institution rooms abt. 800 persons daily went to see the Exhibition of the pictures painted by Sir J. Reynolds.—Lawrence came to tea. He mentioned having just begun a whole length portrait of the Marchioness of Stafford.—French accounts of a Battle having been fought at Lutzen near Leipzig between the Russians & Prussians and the French under Buonaparte on Sunday the 2nd. of this month, and also of other engagements up to the 6th. inst, the French remaining masters of the field of battle, acknowledging the loss of 10,000 men killed and wounded, and stating the loss of the Allies at 25 or 30,000 men.—

May 16.—C. Offley called. He spoke of the battle of Lutzen & said He apprehended it wd. prevent Austria & Sweden from uniting with Russia & Prussia.

Society of Loose Women

On board the Clio Captain Farington [the Diarist's nephew] allows the wives of Seamen to abide with their husbands both in harbour & when cruising, and there were 10 or 12 wives now in the Ship. He does not permit admission to the Ship *to any loose women.* To the unmarried men He gives leave for them to go on shore occasionally, a certain number at a time. Thus He takes care that the married women shall not be offended by the Society of loose women and the good effect is felt in the order which prevails.

Amateur Painters

May 20.—Reinagle told me that Mr. Thomas Lister, eldest Son of Lord Ribblesdale, attends him daily & paints at His House. He is quite an enthusiast, & is so impressed with the pleasure arising from the practise of painting that He said when He goes to bed at night He felt a wish to have His pallet tied to his thumb.—Reinagle thinks highly of his talent for painting, & thinks if He proceeds in the practise He will be the first

Landscape painter of this country. He thinks Sir Geo: Beaumont very skilful; but said, today on looking at what He himself had done that a part of it He thought equal to what Sir George had produced.—He delights in the Society of Artists, and speaks with pleasure when He has been in company with any of them.*

Academy Council I went to. . . . On our way home Reinagle asked me whether He cd. with propriety attend at the Academy on the night when Associates are to be elected, in case His Son (Ramsay Reinagle's) name shd. appear on the list of Candidates. I told Him that it wd. not only [be] proper, but also a duty in Him, to vote for His Son provided He shd. think Him entitled to a preference.—

A Famous Engraver

Mr. J. J. Angerstein's I went to at 2 oClock: Sir G. Beaumont was there, and after some time Sir Thos. Bernard,—The Revd. Holwell Carr, and Martin Archer Shee came: Mr. West was expected but did not come, probably owing to the weather being wet.—Sir Thomas Bernard read a paper which He had drawn up as an advertisement. It stated that the late Mr. Wm. Woollett, engraver, had by His engravings of the Niobe, and the battle of La Hogue, and other works raised that art in this country, and with others had turned the balance of trade in prints in favour of Great Britain; that He died in 1785 at a period when He was beginning to reap advantages from His labours; and left His family but scantily provided for. That His widow, & eldest daughter were from age and infirmities unable to do much for themselves, but the youngest daughter by Her exertions had enabled them to let lodgings, & that they had taken in needle work; but finally they were by the insolvency of a relation reduced to the greatest distress. That it was proposed to raise by subscription a Sum sufficient to purchase an annuity for the mother and Her daughters & to vest in Trustees for their joint benefit.—Sir Thomas then wrote names for the purpose of publishing them as commencing a subscription.—

Mr. Angerstein recommended that the subscriptions should not rise above 10 guineas. He said that in attending to Subscriptions for charitable purposes He had seen that those were always most productive that were not raised above this level.—

Turner's Father

May 24.—Constable called, and at noon I went with him to Turner's gallery to see His Exhibition of this year. Here we met Ramsay Reinagle and had conversation with him respecting the pictures.—Turner's father was there, who told me that He had walked from Twickenham this morn'g

* See Index, Vol. VI.

eleven miles; His age 68.—In two days [during] the last week He sd. He had walked 50 miles.—

Constable walked with me to the British Institution where I took my Catalogue as an Academician. The Preface is sd. to have been written by Mr. Payne Knight, in which, Constable sd, there is a manifest allusion to the arrogant pretensions of Haydon.—

Constable's Prospects

Constable mentioned to me that He had called on Thomson & had conversation with Him respecting His prospect of being made an Associate of the Royal Academy.—Thomson expressed the best disposition in His favor, & said that though there were others who might appear to have a superior claim, yet shd. He come against Matthew Wyatt or such a one, He, Thomson, shd. certainly vote for Him.—Thomson also sd, that He thought Constable was studying with a good view to nature.—Constable asked Him whether He might report this conversation *to me* to which Thomson had no objection.—

Catholic Emancipation

May 25.—The Newspapers this day contained an account of the debate on the Catholic question brought in by Mr. Grattan & supported by Mr. Canning. A motion of the Speaker of the House of Commons (Mr. Abbot) to omit the first Article viz: The admission of Roman Catholics to seats in the Houses of Parliament, was negatived by a majority of 4.—

For Mr. Abbot's motion	251
Against it, & for the admission of Roman Catholics to Parliament	247
Majority	4

Sixteen members paired off before the division so that there were in the House during the debate 514 members.—

Our party at Red Leaf [residence of Wm. Well's shipbuilder] having seen the unreasonable proceedings of the Roman Catholic Clergy and of the Dublin Committee, rejoiced at the failure of Mr. Grattan's bill, as it appeared manifest to us that to grant the privilege of seats in Parliament to Catholics would only be a prelude to their claiming emancipation from every kind of restriction, and wd. lead to the most dangerous contests between the members of the established Church and the Catholics and other Sectaries.—

Spoke for Mr. Abbot motion.	*Against it.*
Right Hon. Mr. Abbot, the Speaker.	Mr. Ponsonby.
Sir John Nichol.	„ Tighe.
Charles Yorke.	„ Grattan.
B. Bathurst. &c.	„ Canning.
	Lord Castlereagh, &c.

This question was lost by the minority Mr. Ponsonby & Mr. Canning expressing that the Bill was no longer worth maintaining, the principal Article, as they sd., being negatived, Mr. Ponsonby moved that the Chairman do leave the Chair which was carried witht. opposition so that the whole Bill was lost.—

While we changed Horses at Bromley the fate of this Bill was mentioned at which the Landlady of the Inn, a respectable looking woman, expressed great pleasure.—

Important Sale of Books

Col[l]. Stanley's Books sold lately by Auction. He had long been a Collector of rare Books, & of fine editions of Books.—His Books had sold well: they cost Him something less than £3000, and they sold for £8000.—The Marquiss of Lansdowne and Lord Spencer were principal bidders.

A Handsomely Conducted Dinner

May 30.—Lord Ashburnham's I dined at.—The Company assembled abt. 6 oClock; and passed an Hour in the different rooms in which many fine pictures were placed, forming together a rare collection.—The dinner was very handsomely conducted.—Four Servants out of Livery & Six in Livery attended.—The table cloth left for & with the desert was not removed, but the wine passed in the French manner with the table covered.—Champaigne, White Burgundy, Hock, & Madeira & a Liqueur wine were served; The wine circulated was Claret,—Madeira & Port.

Lord Ashburnham, whose habit is bilious, said, that 25 years ago He told a Physician at Bath that He could not drink *Claret.* The Physician replied "You cannot *now*, but you will be able to drink Claret 20 years hence." "So it has proved," said His Lordship, "I can now drink 5 or 6 glasses."

CHAPTER LV

1813

Young Men of Little Talent

June 5.—Sir George sd. He thought the British Institution might do much harm by exciting hopes in young men of little talent, & that the Directors and others ought to be careful not to give encouragement but to those of manifestly promising talents, in order to prevent an accumulating number of inferior artists.—

Two Unfortunate Painters

June 8.—John Serres called upon me at 12 oClock,—and gave me an acct. of the situation of His mother, & His 3 sisters, for the information of the Academy Council. He spoke of His situation, said that He had after His wife left Him become responsible for debts of Her contracting which had taken from him £1500 which He had saved, & further other expences on Her acct. had reduced him so as to cause him to be thrown into the King's bench prison.—He said that He had had 8 children by His Wife, two of which were now living, one of them a daughter with Her, and the other, also a daughter, with him and abt. 10 yrs. old.—Since His wife left Him she has had, He sd. 3 or 4 children by different men, & is now in a diseased state of body. She is abt. 45 years old.

He told me He now resides at Covent Garden Chambers, where He paints transperiences & executes such other commissions as come to Him. He spoke of His Brother, & sd. He was till lately very well circumstanced. He taught drawing & had several schools, & got from 12 to £1500 a year, but He lived expensively & saved nothing; and from some cause His head (understanding) has been affected; which has caused the loss of His schools & reduced Him to a state of necessity.

Christian Religion

June 13.—Trinity Sunday.—I went to St. James's Chapel where Mr. Steevens delivered an excellent Sermon *appropriate to the day*, in which He shewed that the doctrine of the *Trinity is a fundamental doctrine of the*

Christian religion, & He quoted several passages from St. Paul, St. James & St. John to prove it, and also a declaration of our Saviour previous to His ascension, and other passages.—He shewed the absurdity of our reasoning upon the nature of the supreme being; a mystery beyond human conception. He asked whether *human reason* could explain the mystery of the Union of Soul and body; or whether the principle which causes the growth of the most insignificant thing in the creation could be told by human faculties.—He said that to deny the *Trinity* is to deny the Scripture,—the Bible, as an inspired work, must be taken together, and He who begins to object has ceased to have that belief, which it requires and cannot be called a Christian. Mr. Steevens was listened to with great attention by a full congregation. He dwelt upon the necessity of an humble submission to the divine record (the Bible) and not to set up human notions & human reasoning with its limited capacity against it.—

Lunacy

Lord de Dunstanville's I dined at.—After the Ladies retired there was much conversation upon the subject of Lunacy. Sir Everard Home [eminent surgeon] gave His opinion for *trepanning*, as it appeared to him that many of these cases were owing to a pressure on the brain, from some cause in the bone which acting upon the substance of the brain altered its quality, increasing its consistency. At least he wd. have the operation of trepanning performed whenever the patient appeared to be affected with a local pain in the head.

He said that He had attended the invalids in the workhouse of St. Martin's in the Fields gratis, but made a condition with the Overseers that when any of the persons in the workhouse died insane, He should have their skulls for examination, & He found in them the brain in a state more thickened than in persons not so affected. He spoke of the process practised for the relief of Insanity by Messrs. Delayhoyde & Lucena, and stated that it was received from a Frenchman who was taken prisoner, or cast on shore near Yarmouth, where He was kindly protected while in want of almost everything by (I understood) Mr. Lucena, and on obtaining His liberation He to express His gratitude, having no other means, left with him papers containing directions for the cure of insanity, which He said, Mr. Lucena, if He thought proper, might take into His consideration.—

A Roman Villa

June 15.—Lysons called, highly delighted with the Roman pavement discovered [near Bognor] in Sussex which employed Him & Richard Smirke the whole of last week in making drawings of it.—Since He returned to London He had ascertained that it was a Villa built by Agricola in the time of Vespasian,—which was at an earlier period than was first supposed at which that building was erected.

Hogarth Wilson and Gainsborough

Sir George told me that it had been determined by the Directors of the British Institution to have an Exhibition next year to consist of the works of Wilson, Gainsborough and Hogarth.—He said opposition was made to *Wilson*, adding C. Long, Payne Knight & others do not like His pictures; the Marquiss of Stafford may be included in the number, & Sir Abraham Hume is not partial to them.—

I expressed my surprise that these Connoisseurs shd. hold such opinions in direct opposition to the general opinion, and at a time when the pictures of Wilson are daily rising in value. It was however agreed that His works shd. be included.

Zoffany not a Great Artist

Sir George then urged that some of the works of Zoffany, particularly His Theatrical portraits, should be admitted; but this was resisted. C. Long particularly opposed it and West being referred to for His opinion of the merits of Zoffany said that His Theatrical portraits were painted with much truth & ability, but Long putting a question to him "Whether Zoffany could be considered a great artist," West replied in the negative, which settled the matter.—Sir George said that Long's taste inclined him most [to] admire *finished* pictures,—and soft, agreeable subjects; Claude is the painter whose works are best suited to Him.—

Exclusive Tastes

Sir George observed that Artists speaking of them generally may be said to have *exclusive* tastes, viz: to be attached to some mode of practise or style of painting which is most congenial with their own practise. He said Sir Joshua Reynolds on the contrary, had a large mind in this respect. He admired works in every stile of painting if they were excellent in their kind. He sd. the same might be allowed to West.—I admitted that there was some truth in this observation but I observed to him that the same might be sd. of Connoisseurs, and He had given instances of it in Mr. Long, and in others.—

Lord Lonsdale's Manner

June 16.—Lord Lonsdale's I dined at.—We dined at 10 minutes past 7. —Lord Lonsdale spoke of West to me & said He had a great deal of information. I said if the manner in which [he] expresses His information was better than it is He would be justly estimated much more highly than He now is.—Lord Lonsdale [said] His defficiency in this respect could be felt by persons who were not competent to judge of His real knowledge, to which I agreed saying, that the Criticisms upon Him were upon defficiencies which a school Boy might notice & remark upon.—

CHAPTER LVI

1813

Princess Charlotte

I talked with Lady Anne Lowther abt. the entertainments given at Carlton House by the Prince Regent. She said they were conducted with Princely magnificence. She spoke of the Princess Charlotte of Wales as having very chearful & natural manners, & Lord Lonsdale agreed with Her Ladyship in thinking that the Princess has nothing in Her look or manner which indicates an habitual feeling of Her superior situation. Lady Anne sd. that the Princess is very much attached to Her Father, which she observed, is contrary to the notion which has prevailed that she is partial to her mother.

Farington and Richard Wilson

June 17.—This day completing the *50th. year* since the time when I became a Pupil of Richard Wilson, R.A. the celebrated Landscape Painter, to whom I went [on] June 17th. 1763, I invited a few friends to dine with me on the occasion.—

We dined at ¼ past 6, and after dinner I desired each person to put wine in His glass and I then told them the occasion of desiring their company this day; that it completed the 50th. year since I went to Wilson as His Pupil, & that our meeting would also commemorate the arrival of Mr. West from Italy, as we were within a few weeks of that period, He having come to England on the 23rd. of August 1763, & I saw Him at Wilson's on the 24th. or 25th. of that month when He came to deliver a letter from Mr. Jenkins [banker & dealer] at Rome to His friend Wilson.—West was much pleased with this commemoration, & we Passed several Hours in social conversation.—

Gainsborough's Art

I told Northcote that I had been informed He was writing the life of Sir Joshua Reynolds & that it wd. soon be published to which He assented.—

Northcote spoke of Ginsborough, in consequence of it being mentioned

that an Exhibition wd. be made the next year at the British Institution of the works of Wilson, Thomas Gainsborough & William Hogarth. Northcote sd. He considered Gainsborough to be an *original genius.* Smirke differed from him, & sd. He thought Gainsborough was not an original genius, [but] one who had attentively studied nature & derived from original thoughts, but that on the contrary His art was founded upon the works of others; made up from observations He had made upon the pictures of different masters, but that He had not looked beyond that source.

Kneller and the Grey Ground

Sir Godfrey Kneller was mentioned as having had in his time as high a reputation as any painter that had lived; & such dominion had his practise over the minds of Artists in general, as to cause them to be more imitators of his mode of practise long after His death. West mentioned that after Sir Joshua Reynolds returned from Italy Jack Ellis, an indifferent portrait painter, who followed in the track of Sir Godfrey, said to Sir Joshua, that He wd. be ruined as a Portrait Painter if He proceeded in the practise which He had adopted as He paid no attention to the *grey ground* which was the basis of Sir Godfrey's pictures & served in part as a middle tint in His pictures.

Richard Wilson a Portrait Painter

West said that while He, himself, resided in Panton Square, Coventry St. Richard Wilson one day called upon him, & looking through the window pointed to a House in the square in which He, Wilson, had lodged before He went to Italy. "I was then a Portrait Painter" sd. Wilson, "& Jack Ellis calling upon me remarked upon my neglect of the grey ground, saying, 'Wilson there should be more of the *Canvass* left,' meaning more of the *ground* of the Canvass seen." Wilson replied "I ought then to be very popular for no painter has more *canvass* left than myself," meaning that he sold few of his pictures.

West was now near 75 years; that period He wd. reach—October 10th. 1813, and was in complete possession of all His faculties, & looked fresh and well, & His appetite was good; He eating indiscriminately of all dishes. He drank white wine only, & never tastes Port wine, nor had done for many years.—

Establishment of the Royal Academy

After tea I shewed Him Cadell & Davis's 14th. Number of Heads of eminent persons, in which Number His, Mr. West's, head is included. He was much pleased with the engraving of it which was done from Lawrence's portrait of Him. He read the Biographical account of himself and appeared to be well satisfied with it saying that it was authentic, but that one circumstance had been omitted, viz: that He was one of the four Artists

PORTRAIT OF GAINSBOROUGH

Engraving by Bartolozzi after an original drawing by the artist himself

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appointed by the King to wait upon His Majesty with the *Plan* for *establishing* a Royal Academy of Arts. The three other Artists were Sir William Chambers, the Architect,—Mr. Joseph Wilton, the Sculptor, and Mr. Francis Cotes, the portrait painter.—

Benjamin West an Englishman

Mr. West also read the note added to this Biographical [account] proving that though Mr. West was born in America yet being the Son of an *Englishman* born and both He and His Father having left America before that Country was declared independent, He could be considered only to be an Englishman. He did not object to this statement and proof.—

He said that He was proceeding with a picture of "Christ healing the Sick" for the Hospital at Philadelphia, and as Lawrence had given to Him the Portrait which He (Lawrence) painted of Him He should send it to Philadelphia to be placed with the other picture.—

While talking of the proposed Exhibition, the next year, of the pictures of Wilson, Gainsborough, & Hogarth, Mr. West sd. that He mentioned to them the Theatrical pictures of Zoffany as works of great excellence & proper to be included: This was also opposed.—

Gross Art Impositions

June 19.—Ralph Cockburn called to mention that He had a fair prospect of being appointed Keeper of the Desenfans Collection of pictures at Dulwich College, Mr. John Allen, a Barrister, who resides in Paper Buildings, Temple, the Master of the College, being friendly to His hopes. He related to me several instances of gross impositions practised on Sir Gregory Page Turner, a young man, 25 years old, by dealers in pictures & particularly by the Revd. Mr. Basely or Bageley, who had sold him pictures to the amount of £13,000; but the originality of some of them being disputed, the matter is or will be brought into Chancery, & Cockburn was desirous that I shd. see the pictures in order to give the evidence of my opinion.—I waived this & told him I wd. speak to Ward upon the subject.—He told me that Lord Kinnaird sold His 3 pictures viz: "Bacchus & Ariadne" by Titian,—"The Judgment of Paris" by Rubens*; & [another picture] for 6500 guineas, & that these pictures are now in the possession of Bageley.—

Benjamin Wilson's £40,000

June 19.—On our way from the Academy West spoke of the late Benjamin Wilson, the Portrait Painter, & said that abt. 3 weeks before

* Titian's "Bacchus and Ariadne" and the "Judgment of Paris" by Rubens are in the National Gallery.

Wilson died He called upon Him (West) and put a paper into His hand which He desired West to shew to the King. In this paper Wilson represented himself as being in very distressed circumstances, thereby hoping to obtain something from His Majesty's bounty. On the death of Wilson, an invitation to His funeral was sent to West who attended, & on their way to the Church where He was interred, West was accompanied in a Coach by two of the Trustees appointed by Wilson to see His Will carried into execution.

West having been much impressed with a belief of Wilson being in a state of poverty, expressed his feelings to the Trustees, who told him that on the contrary Wilson left £35,000 in the Funds and other property amounting together to £40,000.—Sir Robert Wilson, who has served in Russia in a military capacity, & published an account of the Russian Armies is Son to the said B. Wilson.—Such, sd. West, was the force of avarice on Wilson's mind, which I afterwards learnt, that to avoid the small expense of breakfast He had for years been accustomed to call upon one family or another to partake of that meal.—

Long Speeches

June 20.—Sheridan was lately in company when Matthews, the Comedian, who is famous for His imitations, was present. Sheridan was highly gratified with some of his imitations, & going upstairs to an apartment where Ladies were assembled, He urged Matthews to re-act some of them for their gratification, but added, " Do not make them long ; speeches are made too long ; everything but life is too long."

Northcote's "Life of Reynolds"

June 28.—Northcote told me that on the following day His *Life of Sir Joshua Reynolds* in one Volume Quarto would be published. He said He had sold the manuscript to Colbourn, the Bookseller, in Conduit street, for 100 guineas, and that He was to have 50 guineas more if it should go to another Edition.—He said it was yet too early a period since the death of Sir Joshua for Him to write so freely as He might otherwise have done.—

June 29.—Constable called,—being preparing to go to His Father's [at Dedham] in Essex for some time for the purpose of studying landscape. He spoke as having but little expectation of being elected an Associate in November next.

[He was not elected an Associate until 1819].

CHAPTER LVII

1813

Sir Charles Bunbury's Habits

July 1.—I had company to dinner.—P. Hamond spoke of Sir Charles Bunbury, as being very intelligent in the business carried on at Newmarket. At 71 or 2 years of age He is very strong in health and is remarkable for his appetite. He eats much, and after dinner has many small pieces of bread & Cheese which He holds in his napkin & eats at His leisure. It is His custom & [even] in the severest weather to rise from table after dinner, & to throw open a window at which He stands for some minutes.

Low Practice at Gaming Table

Lord L——r attends the gaming table and has been remarked for a low practise in going early at an Hour and taking a seat at the table, which, when the room becomes full, another desirous of being included in the play Has offered Him 25 guineas to resign His seat which He has accepted. —Lord L—— keeps race Horses, which, when He first commenced caused His Father to give Him this admonition, " Honesty is the best policy."—

Duke of Northumberland's Liberality

P. Hamond spoke of the great liberality of the Duke of Northumberland towards the Regiment of *Blues* which He commanded ; and sd. that when the Duke gave up the Regiment in consequence of an officer from another Corps being introduced into & put over the Heads of Officers in the Regiment, contrary to an established custom, He did not on that acct. change His politics & throw himself into opposition.—

Madame de Stael's Admiration for England

July 2.—I was at Home till the evening, when I went to the Evening Exhibition of Sir J. Reynolds's pictures. There was much fashionable company, [including] Madame de Stael (ci-devant Miss Necker) the celebrated Authoress.

Lawrence shewed me in Mr. William *Pitt's* own hand writing upon a piece of *note-paper* the concluding part of one of the King's Speeches, which He wrote while His hair was dressing upon being applied to for it by His Secretary.—Lawrence told me that Madame de Stael, into whatever company she goes where politics are mentioned, expresses the highest admiration of the state & power of this country, & Her condemnation of those party men & writers who endeavour to represent the country differently.

J. Taylor [journalist] while noticing Madame de Stael expressed how well Her last publication had been considered in the *Edinburgh Review.* He then added that perhaps it might be a prejudice on his mind, but He owned He never could consider the writings of women but as superficial productions, and as not posessing the masculine strength and real knowledge displayed in the publications of the other Sex.—

Her Personal Appearance

Madam de Stael, I observed, was of the middle size in height at most. Her face very much of the Swiss form and character.—Her Hair & eyes black, the latter animated. Her mouth wide, & disfigured by two very projecting upper teeth; Her complexion tending to swarthy;—Her person rather broad & apparently strong.—She moved about surrounded by many who held conversation with Her, and gazed at by all but without seeming to press to see Her.—

I noticed that Mr. Wilberforce took in *The Times* newspaper. He said the political writing in that paper was very good, equal to anything of the kind published in newspapers.—He spoke of His excursion to France in company with *Mr. Pitt* before the French Revolution. Mr. Pitt was much noticed on acct. of the fame of His Father Lord Chatham, and His own early display of great powers.—Monssr. Necker was then in high estimation as a Financier, and Posessed a large fortune. His daughter, an Heiress (now Madame de Stael, the Author) was then considered a great object to those who wished to marry to advantage, & it was intimated to Mr. Pitt that if He shd. present himself He wd. not be refused. His thoughts, however, did not run in that direction & He declined it.—

The Battle of Vittoria

The news of a complete victory obtained by Lord Wellington over the French near Vittoria in Spain was circulated through the room and caused much reciprocal congratulation.—The death of Valentine Green [engraver and], Keeper of the British Institution was mentioned.—

July 3.—J. Young [engraver] I met. He told me that V. Green died not [from] the effect of any particular complaint, but that His Constitution was worn out. He was at the British Institution on Tuesday June

22nd, but He was then in a very imbecile state. On Wednesday & Thursday He remained at home, and becoming weaker, He on Friday remained in bed, and died on Tuesday the 29th.—He was 74 years old.—

Dr. Hayes spoke of the death of Valentine Green, Keeper of the British Institution, and of His perseverance in going to the Exhibition room of that establishment till within a few days of His death & when He appeared to be in a dying state. Dr. Jackson, His Physician, & Mr. Hayes cautioned Him not to leave His House, but on the following day when they called they were told He was gone to the British Institution. It was, however, His last visit. Soon after He returned He found Himself too weak to sit up, and having gone to bed, He survived but a few days. Hayes said that Green had a great spring of constitution & had repeatedly recovered when seeming in a hopeless state. With more care & self-command in Diet He might have lived longer.—

Encouragement of War

July 7.—This was the third evening of a general illumination for the victory of [Vittoria] in Spain. I walked with Smirke to see Carlton House; and the Spanish Ambassadors in Dover street, both very splendidly illuminated.—Smirke was much gratified & thought such an exhibition of public feeling calculated to do much good in its effect upon the Army, & in uniting the people in one common cause. He said there were exceptions to it,—& in our Society,—Howard and Ward both spoke against this and everything else that tended to encourage War,—not considering that it is a War for self preservation. Neither of them wd. illuminate.—

Life in the Fleet Prison

Miss Woollett daughter of William Woollett [engraver] spoke of the situation of Her Brother, now a Prisoner in the Fleet Prison. He lodges in a room with 2 other persons, & for this single room which has a Stone floor, they pay 2 guineas pr. week to a Prisoner who having been long in confinement has according to the custom of the Prison succeeded to the right of possession of a room. This He makes a Profit of by letting it and himself finds some accommodation at a Cheaper rate. G. Woollett pays 14 shillings pr week for His portion of the room & has a bed in it for himself only. In conjunction with the other 2 persons He purchases meat which is dressed at the expence of 3d. pr. joint. The expence of His living amounts to abt. one guinea per week, so that His lodging, board, & other expences amount to abt. two pounds per week.—She sd. that £300 would have cleared Him of all Debt; & left him at liberty to obtain a living by His profession as Clerk to a Solicitor, would friends of the family have advanced that sum for Him to be repayed when He might be able.—[Before] I parted from Her I informed Her that she might receive £25 on Monday from Mr. Yenn, Treasurer to the Academy.

CHAPTER LVIII

1813

With Wilberforce at Kensington Gore

Mr. William Wilberforces at Kensington Gore I went to at 4 oClock, and on my arrival there I found Him in His Library accompanied by His Secretary. After a cordial reception He walked with me a little in the pleasant grounds at the back of the House, & then returned to finish some letters. The afternoon was very pleasant & I felt much gratified by the sudden change from the bustle of London to quiet retirement in a shaded walk, which though only one mile from Hyde Park Corner had all the stillness of Country seclusion.—

Mr. Wilberforce told me before dinner that He expected some company, and that He & His family were under some uneasiness abt. His eldest daugr. 14 years of age, who having caught cold it had caused some degree of inflammation on Her Lungs and that a blister had been applied. He sd. Mrs. Wilberforce is a tender mother & is now occupied in attending upon Her daughter.—He shewed me His dining-room which He sd. He had built, and fitted up one side of it as a library, for sd. He I think every room shd. have books in it. He spoke of Boswell's *Life of Dr. Johnson* & said that while He was a Bachelor He had this work always by his side when at dinner & it was his constant resource after dinner, adding that He knew no book that contained more matter for amusement and consideration,—a book with more knowledge in it.—

Pascal and the French Revolution

We dined at 6 oClock.—Mr. Wilberforce spoke of Pascal, the French Philosopher and of His *Thoughts* as being excellent. He took down the book and read the following passage which He observed might be considered a Prophecy of what happened during the French Revolution and what led to it, Pascal died in 1662 aged 39.—

"The art of overturning kingdoms is to reverse established customs, by searching them to the quick, and then censuring them as originally defective in authority and justice. We ought (say these critics in policy) to go back to the primitive and fundamental laws, which unrighteous custom has destroyed. When men are at this play, the State is sure to lose all. Nothing can

keep its weight in so false a balance. Yet the multitude lend a willing ear to such discourses; they are glad to shake off the yoke; and the great ones raise themselves not only upon their ruin but upon the ruin of those curious refiners, who were the first engines of the mischief."

British Success on Sea and Land

The Naval action in which the Shannon, commanded by Sir Philip Brooke took the American frigate Chesapeake was spoken of with much admiration;—and the victory in Spain at Vittoria. Mrs. Wilberforce much approved the public illuminations on this occasion. The probability of the French being driven out of Spain seemed now to be great, and should Lord Wellington's army follow them Mr. Wilberforce sd. He would have contributions levied upon the French who had been so merciless in that respect in other Countries.

July 11.—Mrs. Hannah More was spoken of and Mr. Wilberforce said Her literary exertions were extraordinary, as she continued to write though opressed by sickness.

Discourse on Faith

Before Eleven oClock I walked to Locke Chapel in Grosvenor Place where Mr. Wilberforce had a seat for his family. This Chapel had been reported to me to be used by those who were of a Methodistical tendency, but I heard nothing of that tendency. The Revd. Mr. Gibson delivered a discourse upon *Faith* which appeared to me to be free from anything like fanaticism.—The Sacrament was afterwards administered; I remarked that each time that when [as many] as could kneel at the rail before the Communion table were assembled He did not repeat the usual words before delivering the bread & the Cup to them singly, but made one reading do and then gave the bread & in like manner the Cup, which enabled Him to get through the service quickly, but it appeared to me to be less impressive than the usual mode of addressing each person singly, and I was rather surprised at it as the Chapel bore the character of having the duty performed by those who are called "Gospel Preachers" persons who profess to give the strictest attention to all that may enforce the duties prescribed in the Gospel.

Government Benefaction

At the Chapel I met the Hon. Major William Gardner and His Wife, and Col[l]. Carey of the Guards; and with him walked some time. He gave me an acct. of what had been done by government for the Family of my old acquaintance General Le Marchant who was killed at the Battle of Salamanca in Spain. He sd. the General's eldest Son was Aid du Camp to His Father, and during the battle being sent on some duty, when He returned He found His Father dead.—Government has settled upon the

eldest Son £300 per annum and upon the other children, 9 in number, £100 pr. annum to each of them, making together £1200 pr. annum.—

From Art to the Army

We dined today at 3 oClock to enable the family to go to Evening service.—Col[l]. Carey dined with us, He being much acquainted with the family, probably arising from his holding similar sentiments respecting religion & moral duties. General Le Marchant married one of His sisters & I was glad to meet him as being Brother to Col[l]. Carey who at an early age was my pupil for 3 years being intended for the profession of painting. He, however, quitted that line & obtained a Commission in the Army, & by His ability and good conduct engaged the attention of General Hewit, to whom He became Secretary and after sometime married his eldest daughter.

When General Hewit was appointed Commander in Chief in Bengal, Col[l]. Carey went with him as His Secretary, and on their return from India was appointed Deputy Adjutant General in Ireland which situation He at this time held. He became my pupil in the early part of the Summer of 1791 being then about 17 years old, and remained with me till the same period in 1794.—While He was with me He was entered a Student of the Royal Academy.—

Indian Missionaries

In the course of conversation at and after dinner the subject of sending Missionaries to India was one topic. Mr. Wilberforce thought that most might be done towards converting the Indians to Christianity by translating the Bible into their language. To prove the fact of the horrid custom of women burning themselves upon the funeral pile of their Husbands He produced a list of women who had done so within a space of time not more than twelve months. The number was considerable, as far as I recollect towards 30.—

Religion in England

Mt. Wilberforce spoke of the state of Religion in England at this period and spoke to me of the great difference there is in this respect between what it was in the year 1780 when we first met at Keswick in Cumberland, and what now subsists. He said that when He was first a Member of the House of Commons (He was first elected in 1780) there was not a Member of the House that was publickly considered to be a religious Man, till Sir Richd. Hill, Member for Shropshire, who was elected in 1784, who, said He, was certainly posessed of strong feelings of Religion, but had singularities which weakened His character. At present, He added, it is much otherwise: religion is professed & respected, and a feeling corresponding

with that which prevails in the House of Commons operates extensively throughout the country.—He also noticed the great change in manners & habits, and of the temperance in drinking which is now practised compared with what was the case formerly.—

Faith and Work

Mr. Wilberforce on the subject of Religion, and of the duty of men while in this world repeated what He said to me some years before when I was with him at His House at Clapham. It now arose from the question of *Faith* and the extent of its effect being mentioned. He said that He conceived that a man who has just ideas of the nature of His situation in this world, a sincere Christian acting agreeably to the instructions of our Saviour expressed in the Gospel, will endeavour to make himself in this world as much like what He hopes to be in greater perfection in the next as the infirmities of human nature will admit Him to be. By this opinion He shewed that *Faith without works*, does not reach the rule of life which He rests upon.

A young man, a Student at Cambridge, one of the company, told me that Rev. Charles Simeon of King's College [see Vols. III., IV. & V.] had by His preaching produced a great change among the young men educating there.—Sometime ago not more than 10 of them upon an average attended when He delivered His discourses, now 150 gownsmen form part of His congregation. He sd. Mr. Simeon is a very particular man in many respects: Such a lover of order that if a stick were removed from the place where He had set it He wd. not be easy till He saw it replaced.—

The King and American Independence

July 13.—Benjamin West spoke of the excellent disposition of the King and His general benevolence. He said He was with the King when the Box arrived from the Minister containing the acknowledgment of [the] *American Independence*. The King sd. He shd. have been happy had they remained under His government, as it was otherwise He hoped they would be so in their new state. Mr. West spoke of the personal courage of the King. When He was fired at in the Playhouse, and attacked in the Park, it was observed by those with him that He was not in the least discomposed.

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Prince Regent and the Duke of York

Mr. West sd. being much with the Royal Family while the children were young I could observe their tempers and dispositions. The Prince Regent, when a Boy was good tempered but timid. On the contrary the Duke of York was full of courage, & so were the other boys. The Prince Regent was desirous to learn to Skait, but having suffered a few falls He

could not be induced to expose himself again to the chance of suffering for them. The Duke did not regard the pain but persisted.—

Ignorance of Amateurs

Mr. West spoke of the ignorance of many professed amateurs of the fine arts, and gave an instance of Mr. Payne Knight having admired as being a fine, celebrated picture by Gaspar Poussin, an indifferent copy which had been imposed upon the late Sir Richd. Worsley at the price of £800. The original picture was abt. the same time brought from Paris & bought by Mr. William Beckford. Mr. West shewed it to Mr. Knight who acknowledged His mistake and said it was owing to having seen it through wrong spectacles.

July 15.—I dined this day at Mr. Willm. Smith's, M.P. for Norwich, at His House in Park St. Westminster.—Mr. Smith spoke of Dr. Parr, the celebrated Greek Scholar, and said He was very overbearing in manner if people wd. allow it; otherwise He was quiet & gentlemanlike. Being in Society with Mr. George Tierney [politician] & acting offensively Mr. Tierney rebuffed him in a manner that completely checked him.—

Lord Granville and Society

July 17.—I dined at Mr. John Penn's in New Spring Gardens. On my looking with attention at a portrait of Lord Granville who was Secretary of State in 1720–21 of whom Lord Chesterfield said " When Lord Granville drops the ablest head in England will fall," Mr. Penn came to me & said that His Mother, Lady Juliana Penn, daughter of Lord Pomfret & nearly related to Lord Granville, told Him that His Lordship was very fond of Society and the pleasures of the table, and that His custom was to drink a bottle of wine at dinner and another at supper. He died in 1763 at upwards of 70 years of age.—

Fashion for Gentlemen

While we were looking at this portrait in which Lord Granville is painted in a Court dress some remarks were made upon the change which has taken place since it was the fashion for gentlemen to appear full dress at dinner tables and generally when in Society. When this distinction of dress began to be given up some of the Old Peers were offended at it, and persisted in keeping up all the state of appearance of former times.

Mr. West said that He heard the present King relate the following anecdote of Old Lord Winchelsea who to the last wore a great wig and Cloaths made in the fashion that prevailed in the reign of Queen Anne.—The King in the early part of His reign remarked to Lord Winchelsea that He seldom saw His Lordship at Court, to which the latter replied " It is

LADY CAROLINE LAMB
Engraved by W. Finden

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true that I have given up going there, for the few latter times of my being at Court I looked round & saw such an appearance of people that I thought it prudent to button up my pockets and to make my way out as fast as I could."

Failure at Tarragona

Sir John Murray's failure in attacking & retreating from Tarragona was mentioned. It was supposed that His appointment to such a command was owing to His being nephew to Lord Mulgrave. He married the daughter (an Heiress) of the late Lord Mulgrave.

Wellington more than a Match for Buonaparte

July 20.—I had company at dinner.—Lord Wellington was a subject of conversation. Major Gardner said that in all difficult situations He was as quick as lightning in resources, and that He was considered by the Army as more than a match for Buonaparte. But with all this admiration of His abilities, His conduct had not always been approved. He undertook the seige of Burgos with three 18 pounders,—two of them were destroyed, & with only one He still persisted. He lost 2000 men in this undertaking, and was occupied in vain for 2 months, during which time the French army was increased in number, and became so powerful that He was obliged to retreat to the frontiers of Portugal. Had any other Commander acted as Lord Wellington did at Burgos His character as an Officer would have been ruined.—

Brooke of the "Shannon"

Captain Gardner spoke of Captain Brooke who in the Shannon frigate lately took (off Boston) the Chesapeake American frigate. He said Captn. Brooke He was much acquainted with,—that He was a remarkably good-natured man was always laughing. He had his mind long bent upon capturing an American frigate & that to keep the complement of men in His Ship compleat He burnt whatever prizes He took, not regarding their value. His Ship was a pattern of perfect discipline, & His men were much attached to him.—

Lady Caroline Lamb

July 28.—Lawrence I dined with this day, Robert Smirke also being of the party.—The conduct of Lady Caroline Lamb was spoken of as extraordinary. She is daughter to Lord Bessborough, and married a Son of Lord Melbourne & has children. Influenced by the poetical fame which Lord Byron has acquired, she has allowed her admiration of him to become a passion, which He is not disposed to cherish. At a great route lately she retired to an apartment & is supposed affected by his neglect of Her she cut Herself [with] as if with an intention to destroy Herself.—Lord Byron

says He is haunted by a Spectre, (she being very thin) and treats Her with the utmost disregard.—

Wellington's Habits

Lawrence gave some characteristic particulars of Lord Wellington. It has been observed that when thoughts of military movements rise in His mind while He is in Society He has a habit of taking His left elbow into His right hand & sitting in that posture ;—and that when He is disatisfied with the management of the Comissariat or other concerns He covers His nose with His hand, and on seeing this token of His disapprobation those officers who are concerned get out of his way as much as they can.—

The Duke of York had been sitting to Lawrence for a half length portrait, who observed that the Duke is very punctual in keeping to the time He has appointed. He also remarked that the Duke is modest, & even bashful.—

Accident to Nollekens

Nollekens I called on, & found Him with his face much bruised. He told me that while walking in St. Albans St. on Monday July 12th. without any previous sensation He suddenly fell to the ground quite insensible. He was cupped & blistered, & gradually recovered His senses, but still felt weak. Dr. Bailey had attended Him.—He did not during our conversation appear to have any apprehension on His mind in consequence of this alarming attack but talked as usual indifferently on other subjects. He said that He had resumed His studies but moderately, applying not more than an Hour in a day at present. " The Duke of Grafton was to sit to Him today, He sd. for a Bust."—He complained much of the conduct of Turnerelli, the Sculptor, who He sd. had copied His (Nollekens) bust of Lord Wellington, & now sold it as His own performance.—

CHAPTER LIX

1813

Buonaparte and William the Conqueror

I had company to dinner.—Buonaparte was spoken of. C. Offley [wine merchant] shewed His usual partiality for Him, saying He had done no more than William the Conqueror did, and had as good a title to His Crown, and to what He had got as other monarchs.

Boswell's "Life of Johnson"

August 13.—At 3 oClock this day I left London with Mr. Davis [the publisher] in the Rickmansworth Coach ourselves being the only passenger.s The weather was fine, the distance 19 miles. Money Hill, a pretty Cottage House, the country residence of Mr. Davis & His family is situated about half a mile beyond Rickmansworth.

We talked of Boswell's *Life of Dr. Johnson*, which is the sole property of Messrs Cadell & Davis, but their *exclusive* right will expire in about 3 years. It will then be open to all publishers, but the work as originally published, viz: the first edition, can alone be published by others, and every Edition which may be published by Messrs Cadell & Davis having additions,—notes &c.—added, will be exclusively their right as thus printed, for a term as long as they were entitled to for the first edition.—

Moor Park

August 14.—After breakfast I walked in the farm fields with Mr. Davis and rode till ½ past 2 oClock, chiefly in & near Moor park [now a golf course], where I went to three points from which drawings were made by R. Wilson, the eminent Landscape painter & myself in the year 1765 while I was pupil to Him. From these drawings Wilson painted 3 pictures of a large size for the late Sir Lawrence Dundas, father of Lord Dundas. Moor park now belongs to Robert Williams, the Banker, after having been posessed by one or two other persons since it was sold by the Dundas family.

Admiral Lord Anson posessed it before Sir L. Dundas purchased it, &

since a Mr. Stiles & a Mr. Rous have in succession been the owners of it. I gave Mr. Davis some acct. of Robert Williams the present posesser, and of His most unjust and persecuting conduct to my late Brother Captn. William Farington who commanded an East India Ship, the General Coote of which Williams was the Ship's Husband.—After a Lawsuit protracted by Williams to answer His private purpose and to elude justice for more than 23 years in Chancery a decision was at last obtained, and Williams was cast on every point with costs and everlasting disgrace in the minds of those who were acquainted with His proceedings.—

The Prince Regent's Nauseous Draft

In the interval between riding and dinner I was employed on my drawings & in reading. We dined at 5 oClock.—Mrs. Nowell, mother of Mrs. Willm. Lock of Norbury park [see previous volumes] came to tea. She spoke of the Prince Regent & said He is attended every morning by an Italian or a Frenchman, Pere Eglise, who administers to Him a draft of a very nauseous kind to assist his constitution. A draft of the same kind was habitually administered to the late Duke of Queensberry.—

Mr. Davis told me He was born at Welshpool in Montgomeryshire. He spoke of the great advance in the price of Books. Books sold thirty years ago for 5 shillings such as would now be sold for 9 shillings.—

Paper Making

August 16.—At 9 oClock I went with Mr. & Mrs. Davis to Dickenson's paper Mills abt. 7 miles from Rickmansworth, and was highly gratified on seeing the process of making paper as it is now carried on. Foudrinier was the inventor of this method which is admirable simple and complete. He had a patent for 14 years, but after 2 years or so, He sold it to several. Davis told me that their House (Cadell & Davis) pay to Dickenson £12,000 pr. annum for paper & also deal with other persons for the same article.

Ashridge Park

We proceeded from the paper mills to Ashridge, the seat of Lord Bridgewater, 14 miles from Rickmansworth, and saw the new building erected by Wyatt for His Lordship's residence. Neither Lord B, or the Clerk of the works being there we could not be allowed to see the inside of the House which is abt. 28 miles from London.—

The Park in which the House is situated is finely formed, & wooded. We had some refreshment which we took with us at a small Inn near the park.—On our way back we saw the works of another paper mill also belonging to the Dickensons, who attended us, & we were introduced to Mrs. Dickenson wife of an elder Brother.—The Father of the Dickensons is an

officer on the establishment at Woolwich. We were told that at these mills they make 900 reams of paper in a week.—

We got home abt. 6 oClock and dined. A newspaper was recd. after dinner by Mr. Davis containing an account of the Battle of Vittoria in Spain with an acct. of the Officers &c. killed & wounded. Mrs. Davis was thrown into much distress on it being read that her Brother, Captain Lowry* was severely wounded, encreased by the reflection of what Her Mother, a Widow, and 4 sisters who reside together at Lincoln wd. feel on the occasion.

Benjamin West's Arrival in England

August 18.—Coming from the Academy Council this evening with Mr. West & Robt. Smirke Junr. He [West] shewed us the House, No. 19 in Bedford St. Covent Garden in which He first lodged on His arrival from Italy, August 25th. 1763 & in these lodgings He continued till the month of April 1764. He landed at Dover on the 20th. of August 1763 and went forward to Canterbury that night. The next day He dined at the Inn on Shooters Hill, His first dinner in England. He said He was much struck on seeing the English Coaches, so uniformly well finished & the Horses & Harness so handsome. He had seen none such in Italy or in France. He was also struck with the appearance of the people, their dress being consistent of whatever character. He complained of the effects of a bruise on His right arm caused by being overturned in a Chaise on Blackheath when returning at nearly midnight with Lawrence from a dinner at Mr. Angerstein's. He sd. His arm was painful when in bed, and that He could not paint but in one direction. He had not applied for medical advice, but had applied sweet oil & Harts horn 3 times a week,—rest, He sd. was the best thing.—Lawrence had before spoken to me of this accident. He was much bruised in the face. He said it was remarkable to see the tranquility of Mr. West upon this occasion. He did not appear to be at all agitated, but gave the best advice He could to Lawrence to prevent ill effects from His bruise.—

Captain Lowry died of his wound.

CHAPTER LX

1813

The Painted Ceiling at Greenwich not by Thornhill

August 20.—We set off viz: Mr. West, Smirke, Lawrence, Ralph West & myself, in a Coach & four, & proceeded to Greenwich where we stopped sometime. We first looked at the Basso Relievo executed at Coade's manufactory from a design by Mr. West, in Honor of Lord Nelson in the pediment of a Portico. The figure of Britannia Eleven feet high; women figures introduced 8 feet high.—We then went to the Hall to see the cieling of which Sir James Thornhill has the credit, but it was executed by a foreigner of the name *Andrea*, employed by Thornhill. It was much admired by all present. West said that when He first saw it He thought [it] better than a Cieling by Jordans in the Palace [ ] at Florence. It was then in a pure state, and appeared as if it had been painted with crayons. Unfortunately some time after it was proposed to refresh the cieling, a mere ill advised job, sd. Mr. West.

Stuart, who travelled to Athens having then the care of it. Buckets of oil, sd. West, were passed over it, which blackened the surface & very much injured the purity of the Colour. The management of the light & shade and the general colour of the cieling excited much commendation among us. It was noticed that the Portraits of George the first &c. in the recess at the end of the Hall where a portrait of Sir James Thornhill is introduced, are very much inferior to the cieling & could not have been painted by the same hand.

Moser's "History of Andrea"

From hence we proceeded to the Chapel and looked at Mr. West's large picture over the Altar.—We were here told that there are abt. 2500 pensioners at Greenwich Hospital, who come to this Chapel. No strangers are admitted unless accompanying officers belonging to the Hospital who have seats appropriated to them for the use of them & their families.—We met the Revd. Mr. Cook, Chaplain to the Hospital who told us He had in his posession an account of *Andrea* who painted the Cieling written by G. M. Moser first Keeper of the Royal Academy, and wd. send Mr. West a copy of it.

We met Thomson & Owen at the Hospital. Robert Smirke Junr. joined us and made our party which left London together complete, and we went on to the Inn at Shooters Hill where we before had ordered dinner, to commemorate Mr. West's first dinner in England [fifty years ago].

We had conversation upon the state of Artists in this Country compared with what it was when Mr. West arrived in England, in respect of their personal manners and the degree of estimation in which they were and are held. Mr. West said that in 50 years they had become a different description of men so much more decorous in their deportment and in their reception in Society. He observed that the establishment of the Royal Academy had done much in giving dignity to the Arts, and that too much could not be done to preserve its importance.

Sir Joshua Reynolds was spoken of, and Lawrence said that He could justly assert that Mr. West had maintained more personal dignity in Society than Sir Joshua had done. Smirke declared himself of the same opinion. Lawrence thought Sir Joshua a very worldly man.—Northcote's *Life of Sir Joshua Reynolds* lately published was spoken of, and thought by those who had read it to be vulgar and made up by compiling from others. Lawrence sd. Mr. Joseph Jekyll, the Barrister, Had mentioned it to him and said it was a poor performance.

We had coffee & tea & staid till near Eleven oClock when we returned together to London.—The Bill at the Inn amounted to Six pounds Eighteen Shillings,—the Waiters five shillings. Mr. West desired it might be considered to be *His dinner*, which domestic circumstances prevented His giving at His own House, and He paid the Bill.—

A Rembrandt Forgery

August 30.—Mr. West told a story of B. Wilson having deceived Thomas Hudson, the Portrait Painter, to whom Sir Joshua Reynolds was pupil, by fabricating an etching in the manner of Rembrandt, and exhibiting it to Hudson, who was a Collector of the works of that master, as being the much talked of but very scarce companion to Rembrandt's print of the Coach.—

Northcote's *Life of Sir Joshua Reynolds* was spoken of.—Mr. West sd. He had seen some extracrs from it in the *Morning Chronicle* and did not wish to see any more of it. Things which ought not to be recorded were introduced into it.—Lawrence sd. Northcote had made Garrick a blackguard: He had expected more from Northcote.—He had felt much disgusted while reading the book.

Mr. West said that He saw Beauharnais the Vice Roy of Italy in the Gallery of Paris, & thought him the handsomest man He had seen, and more than 6 feet in height.—

The French in Russia

Lawrence related many particulars of the proceedings of the French in Russia which He had been lately told by General Sablakouff Son-in-law to Mr. Angerstein. Genl. Sablakouff said that when the French first entered Russia there was much alarm on the part of the Russian Government from the uncertainty how the Russian Peasantry would act; whether with hostility to the French, or seduced by them assert claims to throw off the power by which they were governed. The proceedings of the French decided the doubt, which was done by their sacrilegious disregard of all that was held sacred by the Russians: their Crucifixes;—their Altars;—their Churches; & the images of their Saints, which were broken,—or defiled in the most brutal manner.

Revenge

This excited in the Russians a determination & Horror that carried them to the utmost extreme of revenge, and the cruelty of their punishment had no bounds. When they seized Frenchmen they frequently buried them many together while alive, or singly with their heads left above ground till they perished. Buonaparte at Moscow enforced His system of terror without any effect. Russians who had been condemned to die were offered their lives on condition of joining the French. The reply was "We are to die why don't you proceed." Twelve men were brought out singly at Moscow and placed against a wall. With their faces uncovered they *crossed themselves*, and were shot. Seeing this Buonaparte despaired of producing any change in them & said "Barbarians."—

General Sablakouff was with the Russian army, and witnessed the inveterate hatred of the Russians towards the French. He said it was highly dangerous under any circumstances for a Russian man or woman to lend any kind of assistance to the French, & when it had happened it had been necessary to remove the person to another part of the country to prevent fatal consequences.

Princess Charlotte

Sanders [the architect] told us that He was at the military school when lately the Queen gave the Colours to the Cadets.—He noticed the extreme awkward, neglected manners of the Princess Charlotte, lolling and lounging, without any self controul. It was observed that it was not much to be wondered at as she never had any but Sycophants about Her.—

The new Bishop of London, Dr. Howley, was mentioned. Lawrence who had long known Him while He was tutor at the Marquiss of Abercorn's, said that His disposition is mild but firm, & that He is very learned.—

CHAPTER LXI

1813

Business of the Excise Board

September 3.—At 3 oClock this afternoon I left London in the Watford Coach & went to Otterspool near Watford the residence of the Hon: Augustus Phipps [brother of the first Earl of Mulgrave].—Mr. Phipps gave me some information respecting the Excise board & the manner of carrying on the business, He being a Commissioner. He told me that five Commissioners make a quorum, and attendance is required four days in a week, viz: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Saturday & Monday are what He called Chairman's days; the Chairman alone doing the business of those days; attendance is required from half-past ten oClock in the morning till 3.

Mr. Phipps told me He had a lease of Otterspool for fifteen years. It was formerly an Inn, and celebrated for the powerful springs of water adjoining, a very short distance from the House.—

Buonaparte and Marie Louise

September 4.—Before breakfast I employed myself on my drawings carried in my Portfolio. We breakfasted at 9 oClock. Mrs. Phipps [said] she had been informed that Buonaparte and His Wife Maria Louisa of Austria, are attached to each other. When they were married she thought herself sacrificed for political purposes, but now thinks Him a great man and feels satisfied with Her situation.

After breakfast I walked with Mr. Phipps to Otterspool Spring near the House. There are two issues of water which together yield 230 gallons of water in a minute. The Spring never varies in Summer or in Winter. There are two deep holes forming two Craters,—one 18 the other 30 feet deep. Fish not accustomed to this water do not live in it; it is too cold.—

Before dinner I walked with Mr. Phipps to Aldenham Church a mile distant, which on acct. of its picturesque appearance has employed the pencil of many artists & amateurs.

The Admiralty

We had some conversation respecting the Admiralty. Mr. Marsden* sd. it is usual for the first Lord to appoint 3 professional men (naval officers) and for the Minister to nominate 3 other Lords. Of those appointed by the first Lord one in particular is considered to be the first Lord's deputy, and looked to for His opinion. No debate takes place at the Board when the Lords are assembled. A measure is proposed and it is understood whether it should be agreed to [or] negatived by some indication given by the person who is considered as holding the first authority.

The Lords Ill-paid

When the board is assembled letters and applications are first read, and the opinion of one being given, the Secretary makes a note of it. When 6 or 7 letters are thus disposed of they are sent down to Clerks of different departments to be answered agreeably to the note by the Secretary. Two thousand letters in a day are thus read & replied to. It is a rule never to leave a letter unanswered till another day. The first Lord has also many private letters to answer.—Mr. Marsden said that while He was Secretary He looked at letters over night and early in the morning, it was a heavy duty. He remarked that the Lords of the Admiralty are ill paid, not adequate comparatively to the present expense of living.—

Lord Spencer and Public Education

Mr. Marsden spoke of Lord Spencer and of His reserved manner. He said His Lordship feels it, and laments not having had a more public education to which He attributes [his reserve]. Eaton, He shd. have been sent to, but He was only for a time at *Harrow* and there had a private tutor.—While Lord Spencer was first Lord of the Admiralty, Sir Charles Middleton, afterwards Lord Barham was one of the Lords, but it wd. not do, He wd. be the Director which Lord Spencer wd. not submit to. Admiral Young was afterwards at the Board. He was an excellent & most intelligent member of the Board.—

We talked of Mr. A. Dalrymple, Hydrographer to the Board. Mr. Marsden sd. His rudeness to the first Lord (Mulgrave) was excessive. It became from his perverseness necessary to remove him from his situation. He was offered a pension which He refused. His obstinacy affected His own spirits and killed him.—[See Vol. I., page 117.]

September 5.—Mr. Marsden told us yesterday that the Father of Mr. Thomas Hope of Duchess St. Portland Place had three Sons, and that He left a fortune of £900,000 which He by Will divided equally among them, but Mr. Thomas Hope, the eldest Son, had also an advantage over His

* William Marsden (1754–1836), orientalist and numismatist, F.R.S. and D.C.L., Oxford. He was Secretary to the Admiralty in 1804.

Brothers in being for some time a partner in the House at Amsterdam.—This information Mr. Marsden had from the Executor to the Will.—

The King in a Happy State

Company came to dinner.—Reports having been published in the newspapers that the King was much recovered from His insane state I spoke to Dr. Monro upon it who told me there was not the least foundation for the reports. He said the King remained as before going on in a state happy for Himself, amusing himself, & often in His conversation very entertaining; that His bodily [health] was good, and that He would probably live longer from being in this state.—

He spoke farther of the effects of insanity, & said He did not think that insanity shortens life. I asked Him whether in cases where patients appear to be absorbed in grief it did not cause premature death. He said, no, He had not observed that it had that effect. He further sd. that He did not think that confinement shortens life. He knew cases of very long confinement and the persons continuing in perfect health.—

George Canning's Chance

Mr. Canning was spoken of, and Henry Edridge [A.R.A.] sd. He had at one time a great game in his hands & might have risen to the highest situation in the State: but that He had acted so unsteadily as to lose the confidence of many.—The Honble. Mr. Ward, one of the adherents of Mr. Canning, alluding to Him said, "Have you never been in a *tandem* when the fore horse has turned short round upon you & with His bald face looked that He would go no further? In such case you have nothing to do but sit down upon the first mile stone and remain there to be taken up by the first heavy opposition Coach that passes."

Open House at Cassiobury

September 6.—Company came to dinner.—Lord Essex was spoken of, and it was said He invited everybody to Cassiobury, and keeps a sort of open House.—Lord Clarendon who lives near Him limits His invitations. Mr. Phipps sd. "He is a very agreeable man."—Captain Timmins was in the East India Service & commanded the Royal George Indiaman in the action with the French Admiral Linois, and gained much credit by the manner in which He conducted His ship. Timmins had a pension granted to Him. He said the India service formerly was the best a gentleman could put a younger son to, but now it had lost its value.

Catalani's Husband

Valabrégue, the Frenchman, Husband of Madame Catalani, the celebrated singer represented himself to have been a man of fortune ruined by

extravagance; but in fact He was in a low situation, a life guard man or something of that kind, not above it. He married Catalani in Portugal. He was called a little forward Frenchman,—He will accompany His wife where she goes into company. Wishing to see Her in private Society permitted Him to be of the party. [See Chap. XII.]

Death of James Wyatt, R.A.

September 7.—I left Otterspool ¼ before 7 oClock & returned to London before 10 oClock. In the evening I went to the Royal Academy Council where Dance informed us of the death of James Wyatt R.A. Surveyor General of the Board of Works. His affairs were believed to be in a sad state.—Mr. West came in & was much struck on hearing the acct. of Wyatt's death. He sd. it would be upon His mind for 48 Hours. He spoke of the trouble Mr. [Beckford] had been subject to by Wyatt's neglect, and that when Wyatt has been confined in a Spunging House, Mr. Beckford has bailed him from that situation.

Place Hunters

September 11.—Robert Smirke came to tea. He had been at Hastings where, on Tuesday last, He recd. a letter from His Father informing Him of the death of James Wyatt, R.A. Comptroller of the Board of Works. In consequence He immediately took a Chaise and got to London in time to send letters by the Post that evening. He wrote to Lord Lonsdale & to Lord Bathurst for their interest to obtain for him the situation which Wyatt held, or whatever could be obtained under such regulations as may be adopted. Lord Bathurst's answer was kind but he apprehended *Nash* wd. be recommended by the Prince Regent. He also thought the Office wd. be abolished & a new mode of conducting the business adopted. Lawrence wrote to Lord Lonsdale on Monday immediately on hearing of Wyatts death who was killed the evening before by a blow caused by the overturning of a Chaise in which He was travelling towards London when near Marlborough or the Devizes. Lawrence recd. an answer from Lady Mary Lowther written by her at the desire of Her Father Lord Lonsdale, in which apprehension of *Nash* being appointed was expressed. Lord Lonsdale wd. however write to Lord Liverpool, & to Lord Mulgrave to obtain the Office of Surveyor to the Ordnance [for R. Smirke].—Lawrence also spoke to Lord Castlereagh, who said if Dance should not offer He wd. do all He could for R. Smirke.—Lawrence took a Chaise to Sydenham to know from Mr. Adams who was private Secretary to Mr. Pitt, in whose gift the appointment of Comptroller was vested.—Mr. West told me yesterday that He pitied those who had obligations upon them to leave London at this Season so favourable for professional application.

September 18.—Robert Smirke came in the evening. He expressed to me as He had before done, a high sense of gratitude for the exertions of Lawrence, to obtain for Him the Comptrollership. He read to me letters from Lord Liverpool & Lord Mulgrave to Lord Lonsdale. Lord Mulgrave wrote that He had given the Office of Surveyor of the Ordnance to William Atkinson, who He stated [has] a large family & that He had known him many years.—R. Smirke told me that Atkinson has a Wharf in Westminster & purchases materials for cement from Lord Mulgrave,—had from His Lordships estate in Yorkshire.

Distressed Circumstances

R. Smirke said that the body of Wyatt still lies at His House in Foley place to which it was brought. Soane had been with West about having the funeral made *Academical*, but West shewed him that Wyatt did not [hold] a situation in the Academy such as to make particular attention to His funeral a proper measure for the Academy to interfere in.—Bertolini, a plaisterer who does much business, told R. Smirke that Wyatt was in very distressed circumstances notwithstanding the vast opportunities afforded Him to make a fortune. Neglect and a total want of regularity in His arrangements & in conducting His business made the means for His success of no avail. Bertolini sd. He himself was a Creditor for £3000; and that He knew Wyatt's House in Foley Place was mortgaged to the utmost. He said Wyatt owed to Dixon, His Draughtsman, £900.—The following circumstance took place.—

On Monday 5th. [September], on hearing of the death of His Father Philip Wyatt youngest son of James Wyatt set off for Ragley in Warwickshire the seat of the Marquiss of Hertford, where the Prince Regent then was. He did not arrive there till 3 oClock on Tuesday morning, but at that late Hour He contrived to obtain admission & He represented His business with the Prince Regent to be so urgent that He got to the bedside of His Royal Highness. He communicated the melancholy acct. of His Father's death which very much affected the Prince Regent even to shedding tears, accompanied with His saying He had just found a man suited to His mind & was thus unhappily deprived of Him.—After this had passed Philip proceeded with the real business which carried Him to Ragley which was to solicit the Prince Regent to bestow upon Him such of the advantages posessed by His late Father as His Royal Highness might think proper.—To this the Prince returned a civil answer in a general way. —Different members (relatives) of Wyatts family were active on this occasion. His nephew, Jeffr'y Wyatt wrote 15 letters to different persons soliciting their interest to get something that His uncle enjoyed.—Robt. Smirke thought Soane was the most likely to succeed,—He being employed by Lord Liverpool, and indefatigable in pursuing any object which He has in view.—

CHAPTER LXII

1813

Balance of Power

October 4.—[In the] House of Lords, today, Lord Grenville sd. That [a] Crisis had arisen to which His wishes had always been directed,—a real & cordial confederacy of the European Powers to protect their own independence,—as long as the united exertions of the confederation were directed to the grand purpose as it had been well expressed in the King's Speech, of National Independence it wd. be the duty, and wd. always be the inclination of this Country to assist them with all its strength.—So long as the interest as well as the Honour of Great Britain called upon Her to strain every nerve to assist them in their great object;—and in the present circumstances of Europe, after such a long series of Calamities inflicted upon it by the insatiable ambition of the Ruler of France.

Hollow Truces

When Peace came it ought to be a real Peace, not the shadow but the substance. Too long had Europe been deceived by those partial hollow Truces, which gave the semblance of Peace but not the reality. The moment was now come when that sound which the overwhelming course of events had almost banished from their Debates, that sound which the idea of true substantial Peace had always been connected with, might again be heard within the walls of that House. He meant the old-fashioned term of a *Balance of Power*, (Hear, Hear): and He offered thanks to the Supreme Disposer of Events, that He had been permitted to live long enough to see the period,—so constantly the object of His utmost wishes, when His country could with propriety immediately and directly engage in the pursuits of that which in Her foreign Politics, it ought to be always Her object to establish a "Balance of Power."

The Object of Our Ancestors

No sacrifice ought to be thought too great to obtain that which had been the grand object of our Ancestors, in the best times of this country, the preservation of the *Balance of Power*. Now when the Day star of Freedom again dawned upon Europe, Great Britain wd. resume Her

ancient Policy, and endeavour through the medium of a *Balance of Power*, to secure not a perpetual Peace, for that was but a visionary scheme of visionary men, but the existence of such a state of things as even in war wd. afford to the weaker powers, protection against the strong. This was necessary for our own permanent safety; it was the only way by which the real blessings of Peace could be secured to others as well as to ourselves. By holding the Confederacy together the happy events which had already taken place, wd. be followed up so as to lead to the accomplishment of that great object which they now had in prospect, which a short time ago it wd. have been reckoned madness to have expected so soon, but which they might now look [forward] too with sober hope.

Holland's Ancient Independence

If there was any particular object to which this country might look with peculier interest, it was the restoration of *Holland* to Her ancient independence, and Her ancient place among the Nations of Europe. Among all the powers who had been sacrificed to the ambition of France, there was not one, *Holland* excepted, who had fallen a victim to its alliance with Great Britain.—He shd. not think He discharged His Duty if He did not say this—that of all the objects of success there was none for which this country ought to be more anxious,—none for which greater sacrifices ought to be made, none in which the Honour of the Country was more concerned than the reestablishment of Holland in the place which she had formerly occupied in the scale of Nations. It might be some gratification to the People of Holland, who had already suffered so much from the common Oppression, to know, that now when the prospect of Freedom opened upon Europe mention had been made in the British Parliament of Her interest.—

Battle of Vittoria

Long before this intelligence (the Battle of Vittoria) arrived, it was well known to those with whom He had been in confidential communication as to the part now to be taken, that His opinion was, that the existence of such a Confederacy not only in success, but in adversity, called upon this country to aid the general cause, that Great Britain ought to be prepared against all chances to support the Confederacy. This was the advice He now offered, and though their hopes should be damped for a moment, that ought not to damp their ardour.

Independence of Europe

There was for this country no separate peace, no separate safety. It could only have peace & safety by the union & confederacy of the nations of Europe, to reduce the power of France within its proper limits. If this confederacy should fail there was no hope of seeing another during any period that perhaps the youngest of their Lordships could reasonably

expect to see. This then was for the present their last hope, and no possible exertion ought to be omitted that could contribute to the great purpose of sementing the union of this confederacy till the grand object of the whole—the establishment of the independence of Europe—was firmly established.—

A People's War

Lord Liverpool sd. War had hitherto been the conflict of Government against government: it had changed its character: it was now for the first time the war of the people. Such a conflict did not seem likely to end as others had done. Prussia was the last in which the spirit of the People might be expected to shew itself; yet Good God, what a change had taken place; & that within a few months, and did History ever exceed the efforts now making by the Prussians under their King? (Hear) It wd. be the Policy of England to give security not only to Her friends but to Her enemies. It was a maxim which she particularly revered, & He (Lord Liverpool) could not countenance anything as demanded from His Enemy He wd. not have been willing to part with. The present moment was full of expectancies, and nothing could be nobler than its prospects; they were founded on general independence and on that foundation they must spread and flourish.

Insupportable Tyranny of France

In the House of Commons Mr. Whitbread said, The present Confederacy was an alliance of which He approved; it differed from all other alliances as it had been raised by necessity and not purchased by moneys, it had risen solely out of the grinding and insupportable tyranny of France. A memorable lesson for Europe of which it was to be hoped they would avail themselves. Their Government had been overturned because the People did not feel sufficiently [moved] to make a hearty resistance; now, however, that the oppression of France had been found more terrible,—now that its rule had been found more galling to be borne, either by the subject or their Sovereign, the French Emperor had fallen into those disasters which wd. never have happened but for His *insulting tyranny*, and *mad intoxicated ambition.*

A Safe and Honourable Peace

As to the subject of supplies He shd. offer no remarks in disapprobation. There ought to be no limits except the power & practicability of the country.—With regard to the Ministry He wd. not wish any change, except to strengthen their inclinations on the subject of the Catholics. As to all else He wished them to remain to complete their achievements in that style of moderation which designated the Speech of the Prince Regent, a moderation which wd. be the surest method of procuring a safe and Honourable Peace.

CHAPTER LXIII

1813

A Prisoner at Verdun

October 28.—Mr. John Wells [Shipbuilder of Bickley, Kent] sd. He had long known General Turner who has now an appointment in the Prince Regent's Household as Secretary to His Royal Highness. His Father was an Apothecary who resided at Hillingdon near Uxbridge, but Genl. Turner was by some means educated at Eaton. He was entered into one of the Regiments of Guards, and was in a Corps that went to Egypt. He has applied to the study of antiquity & to drawing, and has acquired much information of various kinds. He was in the Army that was sent to *Helder* & whilst in Holland, He, and another officer induced two young Dutchwomen to accompany them to England—Genl. Turner afterwards married His companion. He has a Sister, who was very beautiful. She married Captain Gerard, who formerly commanded the Deptford East Indiaman, and has with Her Husband been confined at *Verdun* in France from the year 1803 to this time, prisoners by order of Buonaparte. Gerard is in distressed circumstances & it is supposed they derive their principal support from Genl. Turner.

Local Worthies in Kent

October 30.—I walked today with Mr. Wells to the pleasant village of Chislehurst one mile distant.—The Revd. Dr. Wollaston, Father of the Revd. Dr. Wollaston* who invented the Periscopic Glasses &c. holds the living of Chislehurst which is valued at abt. £700 pr. annum.—He is more than 80 years old.

The late Earl Camdem (Lord Chancellor) resided at Chislehurst at a House now occupied by Mr. Bonar.' Much intercourse subsisted between His Lordship and Mr. W. Wells, Uncle to Mr. J. Wells, & from whom He (Mr. J. Wells) had Bickley. Mr. Wells found Lord Camden to be a man of bad temper, with little, if any feeling of Religion. He passed much of the latter part of His time in reading Novels.—

* William Hyde Wollaston (1766–1828), physiologist, chemist, physicist, and Fellow of the Geological Society, to which he left the sum of money known as the "Wollaston Fund."

October 31.—After morning service we called on Miss Wells at Her House at the end of the town. She told me that Lord Frederick Campbell [*See* Chapter XVI] had sold His House & Estate, Coombe bank near Sevenoaks, to Mr. Wm. Manning, the West India merchant, and member of Parliament, for £40,000. It had been valued at £52,000 for Lord Frederick & He is thought to have sold it cheap. Abt. 400 acres of land is attached to the House.

Lord Frederick called on Miss Wells on Friday last being on His way to visit Mr. Charles Long, [afterwards Lord Farnborough] at Bromley Hill. He told Her He proposed to reside in London and to visit His friends in the Country occasionally, which at 84 years of age she observed was but a slender prospect. Immediately on concluding His bargain with Mr. Manning He settled £400 per annum on His niece Lady Charlotte Campbell [authoress of some novels & *The Court of England under George IV*. *See* Vol. III., p. 294–5] who, sd. Miss Wells, is miserably poor. Lord Frederick has little pleasure in contemplating the situation of His near relations. The Duke of Argyll married to Lady Paget (Uxbridge) a marriage valid in Scotland but not in England; & His other nephew Lord John Campbell [is] married to the daugr. of a Professor at Edinburgh: a connexion formed while He was pursuing His studies, which the late Duke of Argyll offered Her £10,000 to break off but in vain. They were married but soon separated.

Fishermen and Smugglers at Hastings

November 1.—At 7 oClock I went in Mr. John Well's carriage to Bromley where at 8 oClock I was taken up by the Coach which goes to Hastings.

November 2.—I walked with Wm. Offley on the Sea beach and saw a great increase of Houses built since the year 1797 when I was last at Hastings, and an appearance of much more business carrying on.—

We had company at dinner.—Mr. Milward spoke of the Fishermen of Hastings; about 400 in number. He said 300 of them are Fishermen only, and 100 of them are Fishermen and Smugglers. By an understood agreement between the English and French governments the Fishermen of both Countries are quite unmolested & reciprocally carry on their business without the least apprehension from an enemy. Availing themselves of this privilege the above number of 100 English Fishermen run to the Coast of France & there purchase Brandy & Gin & other articles, but chiefly the former, and smuggle it into England.

Buonaparte Winks at the Business

This being for the advantage of the French Buonaparte winks at it. The temptation is very great as that which is purchased in France for 10

shillings would produce in England 60 shillings.—In this undertaking Boats are sometimes seized and condemned, but should the articles be once landed, the safety of them to the Smugglers is almost certain so much ingenuity is employed to prevent detection.—Mr. Milward said that the privilege granted to the Fishermen, English & French, commenced abt. 7 years ago, & He had a principal share in effecting the understood agreement.—

A Long-lived Body of Men

He spoke of the Fishermen as being a long-lived body of men. Those He sd. who are not guilty of great excess in drinking mostly live to an advanced age.—A considerable number of boats proceeded to sea this afternoon. These boats sd. Mr. Milward will fish during [the] great[er] part of the night according to the weather, and return at 4 or 5 oClock in the morning. The fish being landed a Market commences and the Fishermen sell their Fish to persons who are called merchants who transport the Fish to London by land carriage in abt. 15 Hours.—

Billingsgate Market

All the Fish is carried to Billingsgate none being allowed to be sold at any other place in London in the first instance, and this sale takes place at 3, 4 or 5 oClock in the morning by auction. At these Auctions there is an understanding between the London dealers in Fish and the Agents of those who send fish to the Metropolis. It is the custom always in bidding to offer twice the *amount of the Sum* which is really [to] be paid by the Dealer; this prevents persons from interfering to purchase fish at the first hand as *they* wd. be required to pay a price above what the Dealer wd. charge to the consumer. The Herring Fishery being now going on, the success of the Fishermen last night was mentioned. Herrings were caught in such quantities that 10,000 were sold to day for Four pounds. The last Season they were caught in such abundance as to be sold for manure for the land.—

CHAPTER LXIV

1813

Victory of the Allied Armies

November 4.—The Post this morning brought newspapers & a *Gazette* for me sent by Lawrence of the highest interest. The *Gazette* contained two letters from Sir Charles Stewart to Lord Castlereagh giving an acct. of two actions between the Allied Armies & the French near Leipzig, fought on Saturday Octr. 16th. and Monday Octr. 18th. In the former 12,000 French were killed & wounded, and in the last 60,000 were killed & wounded, and an immense number of Prisoners were taken. Buonaparte, who was in these battles escaped from [Leipzig] on Tuesday Octr. 19th. at 9 oClock in the morn'g, and at Eleven oClock the Emperor of Russia,—The King of Prussia, and the Crown Prince of Sweden entered that City.—Sir Charles Stewart prefaced His 2d. letter by stating "Europe at length approaches Her deliverance, and England may triumphantly look forward to reap in conjunction with Her Allies, that glory Her unexampled and steady efforts in the common cause so justly entitle Her to receive."—And the *Gazette* proceeds thus—

Great French Losses

"The Collective loss of above 100 pieces of Cannon, 60,000 men, an immense number of prisoners, the desertion of the whole of the Saxon Army, also the Bavarian and Wurtemberg troops, consisting of Artillery, Cavalry, & Infantry, many generals, among whom are Regnier, Vallery, Brune, Bertrand, and Lauriston, are some of the first fruits of this glorious day.

"The capture, by assault, of the town of [Leipzig] this morning, the magazines, artillery, stores of the place, with the King of Saxony, all His Court, the garrison, & rear-guard of the French Army, all the enemy's wounded, (the number of which exceeds 30,000) the narrow escape of Buonaparte, who fled from [Leipzig] at 9 oClock the Allies entering at Eleven; the complete deroute of the French Army, who are endeavouring to escape in all directions, and who are still surrounded, are the next objects of exultation."

Joybells were Rung

This joyful news was recd. in Hastings with rapture and the Bells were rung throughout the day.—After reading the *Gazette* and the *evening* newspapers of yesterday which contained many particulars, I passed the morning chiefly in walking on the Sea Beach meditating upon the vast probable consequences which may be expected to follow this glorious victory.

November 5.—I walked upon the Sea beach to the Westward till 5 oClock, allowing a little time for looking at Newspapers at Barry's Library, those which I had not read at home. The *Morning Chronicle* which usually gives the most unfavourable appearance to all political proceedings did on [this] occasion of the great victories near [Leipzig] assume another tone; declared Buonaparte to have been completely outgeneralled by the Commanders of the Allied Army, and pronounced a final termination to His ambitious projects.—

November 9.—The newspapers brought Buonaparte's acct. of the Battles of Wachau & [Leipzig] in which as usual he claimed the victory.

Buonaparte Bulletein from Erfurt, Oct. 24, 1813

Loss by Him allowed.
- Battle of Wachau cost 2500—really 12,000.
- Battle of [Leipzig] cost 18,400—really 60,000.

Blowing up of the Bridge 12,000.

"The disorder which the blowing up [of] the Bridge occasioned to the Army, had changed the state of affairs. The French army though victorious, is arriving at Erfurt as a beaten army wd. have arrived there. It is impossible to describe the regret which the Army feels for Prince Poniatowsky, Count Lauriston and all the brave men who perished in consequence of this fatal event. We have no account of Genl. Regnier, it is not known whether He is killed or taken [prisoner]. The profound grief of the Emperor may be easily conceived, who sees from inattention to His wise dispositions, the results of so many fatigues & labours, completely banished. The Enemy who had been struck with consternation by the Battles of the 16th. & 18th. [October] has from the disasters of the 19th. resumed the courage and ascendancy of victory. The French Army after such brilliant successes has lost its victorious attitude."

Buonaparte took exactly 12 years to rise to a height, from which 12 *months* have been sufficient to precipitate Him.

In 1799 He was installed First Consul.
In 1802 appointed First Consul for Life.
In 1804 Emperor of France.
In 1812, with almost all Europe at His Feet, He began that Declension at Moscow, which, in 1813, was completed at [Leipzig].

A Social Custom at Hastings.

November 13.—Mr. Milward's I dined at. Many Ladies came to tea and Cards according to the prevailing custom at Hastings. The Gentlemen who have houses & establishments dine together abt. half past 5 oClock, and parties of Ladies come at tea-time & abt. half past 10 oClock the Ladies chiefly or wholly sit down to a supper prepared for them, and at Eleven oClock or soon after the Company return to their respective homes.

CHAPTER LXV

1813

Russian Generals Subordinate

The Emperor of Russia had allowed His great Generals to act as a subordinate part in the command even of Russian troops. Such a circumstance was perhaps in every view witht. a parallel. The most eminent acted under Prince Schwartzenbergh, Genl. Blucher, and the Crown Prince. In fact no Russian Genl. whatever had a predominant Command the whole being placed under Commanders of those countries for whose redemption the Russian Army has so gallantly fought.—

Churches at Hastings

November 21.—I attended Divine Service in the morn'g and afternoon. Mr. Whistler the Minister of Hastings performed the duty. After morning service the Soldiers quartered in the Barracks above the town came down and Mr. Whistler read to them in the Church the service of the day. For this He is paid half a guinea each day of the Soldier's attendance.—I noticed the superior manner in which the Psalms are sung in the Churches at Hastings,—not remembering to have heard in any other country Church the vocal performance to have been so full of harmony.—

Dutch Independence Declared

November 22.—In the evening we recd. from Mr. Milward a Gazette Extraordinay just brought from London, giving an acct. of the Dutch at Amsterdam & in other Towns having risen on the 15th inst. and declared *their Independence.*—The Bells of the Churches were rung on this joyful occasion.—Baron Perponcher, and Mr. James Fagel, arrived from Holland in London to wait upon the Prince of Orange to state to him that a temporary Government had been established in the name of His Serene Highness.

November 23.—I walked before breakfast and met Mr. Anderdon, and we congratulated each other on the news just recd.—He trusted that France wd. be restricted within Her ancient limits, & that she wd. appoint a new Governor in the room of Buonaparte.—

December 3.—Mr. Welling [surgeon] told me He resided in London 5 years and attended much at the Middlesex Hospital. He sd. the late Mr. Whitbread gave £4000 for the establishment of a Ward in that Hospital for the reception of *Women* afflicted with *Cancers*. In consequence His Son, the present Mr. Whitbread, M.P. occasionally visits the Hospital as a Governor, as do several Noblemen & Gentlemen in the same capacity. He remarked that it is the disposition of Mr. Whitbread, unlike the other Governors, to be always seeking for something to complain of, and let the Hospital be in the cleanest & best order possible, He will seek abt. till He can find something to notice & to disapprove.—Mr. Welling added that since Mr. Whitbread Senr. established a Ward for Women, a Lady had done the same for *Men* in the Middlesex Hospital.—

Vaccination

December 4.—I passed the day at home in Study,—Mr. Welling dined with [us] and related some curious & interesting circumstances respecting *Vaccination*. He stated a Case which happened in Hastings. He vaccinated a Child which had symptoms of indisposition upon it. In a short time the Vaccination took effect & the usual Pusticle & inflammation appeared; and abt. the same time the *Small* Pox which the child had taken also appeared, part of the eruption being near the sore produced by vaccination. The two disorders subsisted together with *full effect*, and Mr. Welling took from one of the child's arms matter from each of the Sores, that caused by the small pox and the other by vaccination. With these He innoculated in one family, at their particular desire, for the Small Pox,—and in another family He used the matter caused by vaccination.—In both cases the children had the disorders for which they were innoculated, & all did well, and the Child which had both the diseases at one time also recovered.—

Price of Bread

December 17.—The Price of Bread being now low, viz: 11d. the Quartern Loaf in London, Mr. Briscoe, Mr. Milward & Mr. North said that Wheat was *at too low a price* not more than £16 *pr. load*, whereas it ought not to be lower than £20 *pr. load* to enable the Farmer to derive a fair & reasonable profit. They expressed satisfaction at the report that Wheat was rising in price. —

Buonaparte Accepts Peace Terms

December 24.—The newspapers of yesterday brought this morning contained reports of Buonaparte having stated in His Speech to the

Legislative Assembly that He wd. accede to the terms of Peace proposed by the Allies. Omnium rose to 17¾, Premium: Consols to 70.

The observation in *The Times* newspaper, was that "It was a Tissue of Unmeaning Common Places, signifying nothing, binding its author to no specific terms & holding out no distinct hope either to France or to Europe." That it had "the spirit of inveterate & disappointed hostility against all Europe, & furious hatred against England."—

Anecdotes

December 29.—Mr. Whish spoke of His having been educated at Eaton School while Dr. Barnard was Head-Master of it. He sd. He was born on the 3rd. of Sept. (Old Stile) 1743. Lords Carlisle & Fitzwilliam were at Eaton while He was there; also the late James Hare, who afterwards became much known in the fashionable world for His wit & good taste in conversation. He sd. Mr. Hare was Son to an Apothecary at Wells in Somersetshire, & had not a shilling of fortune. Lord North patronised Him at an early period, but, politically, He associated in a different line, and was returned Member of Parliament for Knaresborough through the interest of the Duke of Devonshire.—

Mr. Stonestreet related an Anecdote of the present Marquiss of Abercorn. A few years ago His Lordship had the misfortune to break both His Legs by leaping out of a Curricle while the Horses were running away at full speed. He was attended by Mr. Andrews, a Surgeon & Apothecary at Stanmore, who set the Bones of the Legs & effected a perfect cure. The only reward His Lordship gave him was *ten guineas.*

CHAPTER LXVI

1814

The Allies Across the Rhine

January 1.—The newspapers brought the agreeable account of The Allied Armies having crossed the Rhine and entered Switzerland. I walked before dinner.

January 19.—W. Wells told me that the late Mr. Thelusson, grandfather to the present Lord Rendlesham, & Father to the Hon: Mrs. A. Phipps; He who made the remarkable Will bequeathing the bulk of His property to an Heir of the 3d generation of His successors, said to Him (W. Wells) sometime before He died that if such a thing were possible, He would give £200,000 to be restored back to youth though it should be to be placed as a Hackney Coachman.—This brought to my recollection an anecdote of the late Right Honble. Richd. Rigby, who was Paymaster General in Lord North's administration. A Person being with him at His beautiful Seat, Mistley Hall in Essex, was expressing His admiration of it, and His congratulations on Mr. Rigby posessing such a property, who replied, "I would give this place and everything else that belongs to me could I again be made a Boy & stationed to clean shoes at the end of Fetter Lane." Such was this world to them.—

Local Gossip

January 21.—At dinner and in the evening we had various conversation.—The Freemantle family was spoken of. The Father of those who are now living was Secretary to the late Marquiss of Buckingham while He was Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, & His Lordship continued to patronise the family. He had 4 Sons & 3 daughters. The eldest Son was in the Guards of the rank of Colonel. He married a daughter of the late Lord Ongley, but dying left Her a widow. Admiral Freemantle, another Son, now commanding a Fleet in the Mediterranean, married a Miss Wynne who had a handsome fortune. Mr. Freemantle, who held a place under Government during Lord Grenville's Administration, is also a Son of the late Secretary. He married the widow of Felton Hervey, who shot himself. She posesses a large income,—6 or £7000 pr. annum, and has living 2 Sons & 2 daugrs. children by Her former Husband, Mr. Harvey. With this family Mr. Freemantle lives very happily. The 4th. Brother (Freemantle)

died. One of the Sisters is Mrs. Wells, widow of the late Admiral Wells. Another married Mr. Bishop, a Proctor in Doctor's Commons. The 3d. is wife to the Honble. & Revd. Mr. Cathcart.—

Farming was a subject of conversation. It was agreed that when Wheat is sold at less than £20. pr. Load the Farmer cannot carry on His business to have a reasonable profit. It had lately been at £16 pr. load. When Wheat is sold at £20 pr. load, the quartern loaf sells for one shilling.—Mr Alnut [said that] no other kind of weather is so prejudicial to vegetation as *Frosty nights* and *Sunny days*.

The Shelley Family

January 23.—I went to Penshurst Church to morning divine service, & afterwards stopped a little at the Revd. Mr. Hammond's the Rector. The living of Penshurst is reckoned to produce £1200 pr. annum. It is in the gift of the Sidney family, which family is now resolved into that of Sir Bysshe Shelley [the Poet's father] who married a *female descendant* from the Sidney family. One or two of the Sons of Sir Bysshe Shelly have taken the name of Sidney, & for one of them this living was intended while He was a minor.

Mr. Hammond is son to a gentleman who inherits an estate of £500 pr. annum near Great Marlow. In His youth He was an Officer of Marines & served in America where He was wounded. He was put on Half pay. It was proposed to Him to take orders for the purpose of holding for a time the living of Penshurst. He accordingly went to Oxford & after preparation took orders, & was inducted to that Living, which from that time He has held in consequence of either of the Mr. Sidney's refusing to become Clergymen. He continues to receive *Half pay*, and on making application to the Governors of the Royal Military College at Marlow one of His Sons has been admitted a Cadet as the Son of an Officer who had been wounded in the service.—

January 25.—The newspapers continuing to bring accts. of the vast interruption to travelling caused by the great depth of the snow in every direction.—Some conversation took place abt. the produce of farming & how far certain quantities wd. go towards the sustenance of man.—It was calculated that a gallon of flour per week, which wd. make *two quartern loaves*, would be sustenance for one person and it was reckoned that at this rate of consumption one acre of land sown with wheat would support three persons for one year.—

A West India Merchant

February 2.—Wm. Wells, recd. an acct. of the death of His Uncle Sir Richard Neave, Bart, aged about 86.—He had for some years lived upon strong soups & pudding, and drank daily 3 or 4 glasses of Tokay that being thought to be a strengthening wine. He was a West India merchant & posessed a large fortune. Seventy thousand pounds was left to Him 60 years ago,—to His Brother £30,000, & to His sister, the mother of Wm.

Wells £40,000. In London He resided in Albemarle St. & had a House in Essex.—

The Thames Frozen

February 5.—A dull, frosty morning. The Thermometer at 11 oClock last night stood at 21¼. In the day there was rain and light snow, and the Thermometer rose at night to 37. Accounts from London stated that the Thames was frozen over and that people passed over it, and places for entertainment were erected upon it.—

A Victory in France

February 21.—After breakfast I left Redleaf in Mr. W. Wells's carriage accompanied by Mrs. W. Wells to Sevenoaks where I took a Chaise and proceeded to Bickley where I had the pleasure of being informed by Mrs. J. Wells on my arrival that a gentleman had just brought intelligence of a great victory having been obtained over Buonaparte in France and that a messenger covered with Laurels had passed through Dartford carrying the information to Government.—The papers brought in the evening shewed that this was one of many reports circulating from time to time supposed to influence the Funds.—Mr. J. Wells returned home before dinner. He spoke of the appearance of the People in the busy part of London, so different from what it was sometime ago,—now all chearfulness and activity.—

February 24.—The weather still frosty and Ice on my Bedchamber windows. At breakfast this morning Captn. Kirkpatrick spoke of the late Sir Alexander Hamilton of the Retreat near Exeter. A gentleman who knew him at an early age said He ran away from His friends in Scotland when only twelve years old and went to the West Indies. He died posessed of Property, including estates in West Indies, to the amount of £100,000. On His Coffin His age was put 72 but the above mentioned gentleman said He was about 74 years old when He died.

The People and Peace

February 24.—[Dr.] Liddel spoke of the disposition of the People of London generally with respect to making Peace. He said should Lord Castlereagh return from the Congress at Chatillon and proclaim that Peace was made with Buonaparte He would be *hooted*, such is the dislike of such a measure.—

Against Peace

February 25.—We had political conversation. Mr. Lockwood & Liddell were decidedly against making *Peace* with *Buonaparte*, as it would leave us in a state of insecurity so long as He may have power. I concurred with them. J. Wells feared that we could not depend upon *Austria*, thinking it probable that on acct. of His having married a daughter of the Emperor of Austria it would be the wish of the latter to keep Him on the Throne of France,

CHAPTER LXVII

1814

Enter Edmund Kean the Actor

March 2.—The Royal Academy Club I dined at.—Thomson & Owen spoke to me of the extraordinary talents of Edmund Kean a new actor in Tragedy, and of His being perfectly *original* in His manner of representing characters.—They said that *Wroughton*, an Old Actor, spoke of Him as having much of what *Garrick* posessed.—

Want of Provisions

March 4.—Samuel Lysons called; confident that there wd. be *Peace* (the Preliminaries signed) before the 21st. inst.—He had seen several letters from Mr. Planta [Junior], Private Secretary to Lord Castlereagh at Chatillon. Provissions there very scarce, and supposed the Allied Armies wd. be obliged to fall back from want of Provissions.—Caulincourt (Duke of Vicenza) the French Diplomatist, at the Congress, a man of agreeable manners and of a grave deportment. He gives excellent dinners. —The Russian Guards are the finest men Mr. Planta had ever seen, & superior to the Prussian Guards.

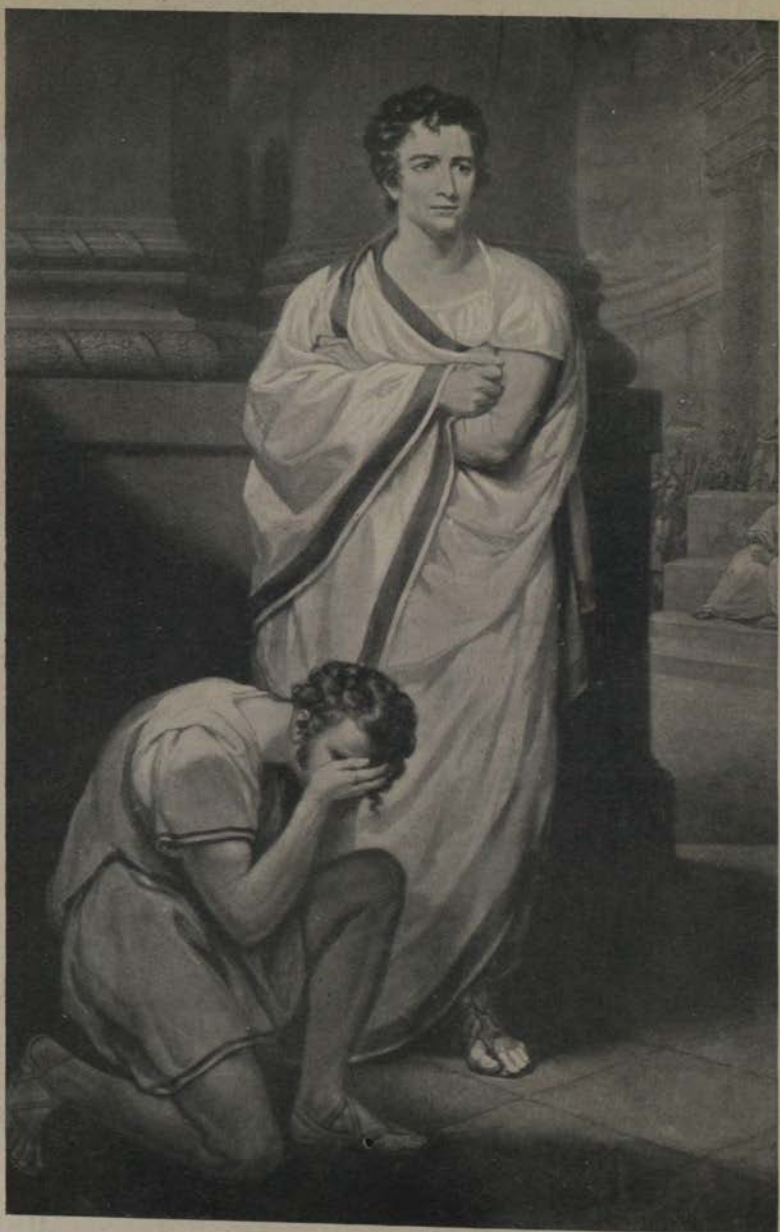
Lady Hester Stanhope

Lysons spoke of Lady Hester Stanhope niece of Mr. Pitt & who lived with Him several years. She is now travelling in the *east*; has passed through Egypt, visited Palymra, and was there and everywhere recd. by the Arabs with great respect, & had Passports from three or four Chiefs of the Arabs. She is accompanied by a Mr. Bruce.* Sir Joseph Banks lately recd. a letter from Her Ladyship.—

Spaniards and English

Mr. Robert Green told me that He was some months ago at *Cadiz*, & thought the People not well affected towards the English, being jealous of

* James Bruce celebrated traveller. See Vol. III, pp. 37–38.



EDMUND KEAN AS BRUTUS
By James Northcote

To face p. 220

them, and that there was a strong French Party at Cadiz.—He said He had conversed with a Spaniard in the Corridor of one of our Theatres, who remarked " that the English had the advantage in the *Face* & *complexion*, but the Spaniards in *personal form*, being better made, better formed limbs."—

The Beef Steak Club

Mr. Green & His Brother spoke of their having dined on Saturday last at the Beef Steak Club adjoining Covent Garden Theatre. The old custom is kept up of having *Beef Steaks* only for dinner, & Port wine & Punch only for drink. The Dukes of Sussex, Norfolk, & Argyll were there & several other Peers, & in all abt. 30 persons. The Club consists of 12 Persons only, —the remainder of the company came by invitation. Captn. Morris & others sung songs, & Pipes & Tobacco were allowed. Mr. Green remarked [on] the enormous quantity which the Duke of Norfolk ate, & said after dinner, according to His custom, He slept.

Peace with France

March 5.—Lawrence called. He was for *Peace* with Buonaparte there being no hope of the French People espousing the Bourbons. Mr. Robinson, Secretary to Lord Castlereagh at Chatillon, brought over dispatches and returned a few days ago. He said that if *two fingers* were to be held up for the Bourbons *two hands* would be held up for Buonaparte.—

He spoke of the late elections at the Academy, & said He voted for *Raeburn*, who was unsuccessful. [He was elected in 1815].

A Tintoretto

Westall had purchased a picture by Tintoretto " The raising of Lazarus " for 50 guineas, which he valued at 2000 guineas. [It fetched £3360 in the Holford sale at Christie's on July 15, 1927.]—He and John Aytoun [artist] were out of spirits at the reported success of Buonaparte in France against the Allies.—

Lawrence I dined with; Robert Smirke there. I was much pleased with the manner in which His House [now replaced by a hotel] in Russell Square had been furnished. He told me the picture by Tintoretto now in the posession of Westall was brought to England by Lord Bristol (the late Bishop of Derry).—

An Unfortunate Sculptor

March 7.—Westall I dined with, John Aytoun there.—I saw His picture by Tintoretto, a genuine production of that master. He said He had told the Marquiss of Stafford that the price was 2000 guineas.*—Rossi

* On July 1st, 1814, Farington writes:
Westall called & we conversed on the business of the approaching sale of His effects. He shewed me an *anonymous letter* which he had recd. describing the character of Philips the auctioneer, as

had called upon Westall to request Him to speak in His favour to some of the Members of the Committee of taste. The Committee had voted 2 monuments to *Westmacott*, one of 5000 guineas, and one of 1500 guineas; & one to *Chantrey*: but had not voted any to Rossi.—Westall said He had spoken to Members of the Committee & the remark made upon Rossi's work was that whatever His design might be, His execution was clumsy & not well worked up. They did not indeed speak highly of Westmacott's execution. Bacon they said worked well; finished better than the others, but His designs were not in a good taste.—

They spoke of *Kean* the new Actor, & said that He was puffed beyond His claim, probably to fill the Drury Lane Theatre which was reduced almost to Bankruptcy.—

March 8.—Robt. Smirke I dined with, Lawrence there, who dined yesterday with R. P. Knight in Soho Square.—Lawrence remarked that Lord Carlisle's face is much disfigured by the Cutting operations to relieve Him from the painful nervous affection, the disorder called Ticdoloreux. In the conversation which took place Mr. Knight had the principal share. Samuel Rogers [the Poet] said little; like Fuseli, He must have the lead or He is silent.—

March 9.—Hayes called, and talked much of the state of public affairs, and of the happy change which had taken place from the period of the Battle of [Leipzig]. He spoke of the Marquiss of Wellesley, and of His connection with Mrs. Douglas,—& of Her going from Her own House to Apsley House; and of the great expence at which she was supported.—

being knavish and that He had taken the advantage of His situation to knock down lots hastily which [it] had afterwards appeared were bought in for himself by persons employed by Him.—Westall proposed to enclose this letter to Philips, thinking it might have some effect upon Him.—I told Westall that from Philips' manner of proceeding on His (Westall's) business I had a very bad opinion of Him,—and that I was apprehensive the sale wd. be made to great disadvantage.—

On July 6th, 1814, the Diarist continues:

Westall's sale I attended & saw His drawings & Pictures sold, very differently indeed from what His own notion was of their value. Many of the articles sold at very low prices. "*The raising of Lazarus*" by Tintoretto, which He thought worth 2000 guineas sold for 79 guineas.—He gave 50 guineas for this picture at an auction when it was in a very dirty state. It was brought to England by the late Lord Bristol. He told me He devoted several weeks to the cleaning this picture. The frame He had made for it cost Him 50 guineas. It was His intention to hang it up in His Drawing room, and on acct. of its large size He had some of His Cabinets cut down to give room for it. This, & the new painting & ornamenting His Cabinets cost Him £80, thus,—

Picture.	52 10 0.		
Frame.	52 10 0.		£185 0 0.
Altering Cabinets &c.	80 0 0.	sold for:	82 19 0.
	£185 0 0.		102 1 0. Loss

H. Philips, the Auctioneer, took pains & did what He could for the sale. T. Philips R.A, was there, and bought the portrait of Mrs. Baldwin by Sir J. Reynolds for 67 guineas.

March 10.—In the various opinions floating respecting a *Peace* which is now negociating, there were several of my acquaintance who differed. Hayes was manifestly against supporting the *Bourbons* who, He said, had no claim upon this country from any conduct of that family towards it. Even under the present circumstances, supported as He [the Duc d'Orleans] is by England He never employs *Englishmen* but looks for Frenchmen for every purpose when He has to lay out money.—

A Mock French Colonel

Wilson called. He spoke of the trick played on the Stock Exchange by the [manœuvre] of sending a *mock French Colonel* from Dover to London with fabricated information from France for the purpose of raising the Funds. He said the Committee appointed by the Subscribers to the Stock Exchange had sufficiently traced it to Lord Cochrane & His Uncle the Hon: Cochrane Johnson, &c, to satisfy Him, that they were the persons principally implicated in the deception, and He hoped they wd. be expelled the House of Commons.*

J. B. Lane called, & told me that Mr. Anderdon had informed Him of an offer made by the Directors of the British Institution of 4000 guineas for a picture by Raphael.—Such an application of the money of the Society seemed to be wide of its professed purpose "The encouragement of British Artists."

* On July 8th we read:

The sentence passed on Lord Cochrane &c. ordering the *Pillory* &c. was talked of, many having complained of its severity, and the general notion was that to Lord Ellenborough it was to be ascribed. This was now stated to be a mistake. On the contrary the rule is for the Chief Justice to deliver His notes to the other Judges of His Court, and they determine what sentence ought to be passed.

July 8th. Lord Lonsdale's I dined at.—The trial of Lord Cochrane was spoken of. Lord Lonsdale sd. that two days after the trial He heard Lord Lauderdale who attended it & sat on the Bench with Lord Ellenborough, speak abt. it. He said nothing could be more clear and fair than Ld. Ellenborough's summing up of the evidence; and that He (Lord L.) had He been on the Jury shd. have done as the Jury did.—The vulgar prejudice which prevails against Lord Ellenborough in consequence of the inflammatory speeches of Sir Francis Burdet, and the abuse of Lord Cochrane was spoken of. Lord Eldon (the Chancellor) told Lord Lonsdale that on His way back from St. Pauls Cathedral on the Thanksgiving Day, He was hissed and hooted at violently several times. This it appeared was owing to His [being] mistaken by the mob for Lord Ellenborough for when He arrived at Charing Cross some of them came up to His carriage and asked His pardon telling Him that the hissing was not intended for him.—

CHAPTER LXVIII

1814

Catholics and Protestants in Ireland

March 13.—Lestock Wilson's I dined at. Captn. Beaufort being returned from Ireland (His native country) lately spoke of the state of it politically.—He said the Catholick Board as it was called, was daily losing credit. Noblemen & Gentlemen Catholicks of the first respectability disapproved their proceedings. Among those who took an active part at the Board there were many men of known ability, but [their] purpose was to keep the country in a state of fermentation. Should the restrictions on the Catholicks be removed it would be a disappointment to them as it wd. remove their main cause of complaint. He added " There can be no doubt but ere long the restrictions on the Catholicks will be wholly removed ; and I see nothing but good consequences from it. The number of Catholicks will be *gradually lessened*, they will become *Protestants.*

Heads of families will feel a difficulty in going through the ceremonies of abjuration, partly from a dislike to subjecting themselves to such forms, and from a doubt of their sincerity being questioned, but they becoming more relaxed in their Catholick profession will make it easy for young persons and for those who are not so ostensibly situated to fall gradually into Protestantism.—He spoke of the activity of the *Methodists*, and sd. they have exerted themselves in a part of Ireland in a very barbarous state, and where the Catholick religion is general, and many converts to Methodism had been made.—

Expense in Ireland

Travelling in Ireland, taking Chaise expence, and living at Inns, is at abt. the rate of three fourths of what it would be in England, but the accommodations both of Chaises, Horses, & Inns is far inferior.

To see the Lakes of Killarney would take a fortnight to study them well. The Inn at Killarney is tolerably good. It is abt. a mile and half from the Lake. It would be best to take lodgings in the town of Killarney, —most convenient and the cheapest residence ; also to *hire a Boat*, and keep it in pay to be at command.—The road from Cork to Killarney,

40 miles, is dreary, and offers nothing to the eye or the mind that is agreeable.—

Ireland is in a very improving state.—Dublin flourishes. The Prediction that after the *Union* of the two kingdoms " grass would grow in the streets " is completely falsified.—

A Partial Spirit

Captn. Beaufort spoke of Edwd. Wakefield's *Statistical acct. of Ireland.* He sd. it had passed through one edition, & another was printed; that there was sense and ability manifested in it, but it was written with a partial spirit, with the temper of an oppositionist to the present government, and in consequence it had been much approved by the *Edinburgh Review.*—It contains much misrepresentation, and information recd. by Him while He was printing His Book was not admitted, though it wd. have corrected errors, because it came too late. He was also thought to have acted indelicately in stating particulars of the circumstances of Families into which He had been received, while He was collecting information, [as, for example, he did from] Mr. Edgworth father to Miss Edgworth the Authoress.—[See March 27.]

Terms of Peace

March 15.—Lawrence I dined with. Lawrence read a letter which He had recd. from *Chalons* stating that a Peace might soon have been made had there been *one Head* only to settle on the part of the *Allies*; that terms of Peace had varied according to the present temporary success of the Allies or of Buonaparte; describing *Caulincourt* the French Ambassador, favourably, and as not being the villain He has been supposed to be from His having conducted the plan of the seizure of the unfortunate Duke D'Engien.—Smirke speaking to me said the negotiations with Buonaparte pressed heavily on His mind; He saw no prospect of lasting peace while He shd. be allowed to govern France.—

Hayes called.—I told Him of reported successes of the Allied armies. A victory by *Blucher*; and of Prince Schwartzenberg having reached Fontainbleau.—The *first* (*Marshal Blucher*) reports were confirmed by *Gazettes*, and the Park and Tower Guns were fired.—

March 18.—[Dr.] Hayes called, and on looking at *The Times* newspaper felt indignant at a strong invective against Buonaparte.—" Can the author be a Christian " said He.—

A Famous Traveller

March 20.—Henry Salt, formerly my Pupil, told me that He had just completed an account of His last voyage to Abyssinia which would make one quarto volume, to be embellished with several prints. Rivington, the

Bookseller in St. Paul's Churchyard, had engaged with Him for the Publication of it. The terms were that Rivington should pay Him £800, and that He (Rivington) should stand all risk of the work selling well or not, & in case of Profits rising from the sale of it Salt was to be further remunerated.—He spoke of Lord Valentia as of a firm friend disposed to serve Him essentially whenever His power becomes more extensive by the death of His Father Lord Mount-Cashell, [See Index, Vol. IV.]

March 22.—Lysons called. He said *Peace* was every day expected to be announced. I asked Him "Whether He thought that People in general were for Peace with Buonaparte?" He replied "No."—He saw Mr. Joseph Planta Senr. this morning who remarked that as the great object now was to establish a *Balance of Power in Europe*, and as it was manifest that *Prussia* inclined to *Russia*, & that *Russia* & *Holland* would be firmly united to this country, it might be supposed that Austria might feel some leaning towards *France* as a counter-balance to the other powers.

March 23.—Hayes called. We talked of the entrance of the British Army into Bordeaux. Hayes continued strongly byassed to make peace with Buonaparte.—

Eminent Men

March 25.—I was alone till the evening when Hayes called. We talked of the times, and of the characters most distinguished. He could not like many others, put Lord Wellington in comparison with the great Duke of Marlborough as a military commander, neither did He think Him equal to the late General Moore who, He sd. never was supported by the government in the degree that Lord Wellington had been supplied. Thus various are opinions.

CHAPTER LXIX

1814

Miss Edgworth, the Novelist

March 27.—Wilson's I dined at.—Captain Beaufort told me that Miss Edgworth's new publication *Patronage* had sold rapidly. "Everybody abuses it," said He, "but it is eagerly bought." Six thousand have been already printed.—He said "She & Her Father, Mr. Edgworth, have adopted certain notions & maxims and they take this method of publishing them to the world, which they could not hope to do with any effect if given only as *Aphorisms*.—Mrs. Beaufort afterwards told me that Johnson, the Bookseller & His nephews (His Heirs) had paid Miss Edgworth not less than £10,000, and they themselves had got as much by their engagements with Her. She said that for *The Fashionable Tales* they paid Her at the rate of a Guinea for *each page*, and the Copy right remained with them. When the late Mr. Johnson died He left Her a legacy of £1000. This was not put into his Will, but was expressed probably to His two nephews, His Heirs, and they honorably fulfilled this bequest though there were no witnesses to what passed with their Uncle on the subject.—Mr. Edgworth's present wife is Sister to Captain Beaufort.—

Public Affairs

March 29.—Dance talked with me & Fuseli abt. the present state of publick affairs. He sd. His mind was full of the subject. He had strong hopes that the disposition manifested in France to support the *Bourbons* wd. spread & be successful. Fuseli admitted that it would be well for England to have the Bourbons restored as it was best for this country to have *weak princes* on the throne of France. "You have adopted me therefore," I say, "it wd. be best for *our country*, but I foresee great difficulties in the way; Austria will support Buonaparte for the sake of the daughter of that House, His wife, and war with uncertainty may be continued."—

The Doctor's Advice

March 30.—[Dr.] Liddell I called on & talked with Him abt. the complaint in my head. He said it proceeded solely from the *stomach*. He

recommended to me to eat plain food in the ordinary way,—to drink little wine,—in company with caution, and when alone not any, or rather not more than two glasses and the wine to be *Madeira*. Sherry, He sd. had too much Brandy in it. Brandy with water might be drunk as it did not produce acid in the stomach, but it was a dangerous liquor if made habitual. He recommended to me strongly to go to *Cheltenham* in May next & to remain there Six weeks. The water, He sd. wd. be of great service to me.—He was not for Emetics but rather for Purgatives, and said Calomel pills might be beneficial to me. One or two Pills at a time might be taken twice a week to consist of *Each Pill*, "One *grain of Calomel*,—one grain of *James's Powder*; and one grain of *Rhubarb*."

Commander of the "Shannon"

Samuel Lane I called on to see His pictures preparing for Exhibition; one a whole length of Sir Philip Brooke of Nacton in Suffolk, the gallant Commander of the *Shannon*, who took the *Chesapeake* American Frigate. Sir Philip related to him the following anecdote.—When He, Sir Philip saw the American colours struck He went forward to the Forecastle where three Americans were fighting with English sailors. He ordered the latter to desist; the Americans laying down their arms; which, however, they quickly again took up & all three attacked him. One of them cut Him on the Head with a Sabre, and another bruised His Head with the Butt end of a Pistol, and struck Him also with such force on the shoulder of His right arm as to paralyse it, and at this time He felt much inconvenience from it. The ingratitude of the Americans was justly punished by the English sailors who put them all to death.—

Lane introduced the American Colours in the front of the picture lying on the ground under English colours, Sir Philip modestly expressed a doubt whether that wd. not appear ostentatious.—He is much devoted to His profession, & when recovered from His wounds means to serve again. A Son of Sir Thos. Gooch Bart. of Suffolk told Lane that Sir Philip has £6000 per annum. He married a daughter of Sir William Middleton Bart. of Suffolk.—

A Pot-House Actor

I had company at dinner.—Kean the new popular actor at Drury Lane was a subject of conversation.—Taylor said "He is an *Humbug*: His acting is often false, & without anything like classical taste, He is a *Pot-House* Actor."—Robt. Smirke said He knew that every effort was made when He first appeared to render Him popular: the Theatre was almost filled by persons admitted by *Orders*.—I told Taylor that *Wilson* having once seen Him sd. "I wd. not give Sixpence to see Him again." There were, however, it was allowed, many who professed to think Him an original and extraordinary performer. Pascoe Grenfell, M.P. has strenuously

supported Him. Moreton, the Theatrical Writer, a good judge of acting was met by Mr. Grenfell when returning from the representation of *Hamlet* by Kean. Well, says Mr. Grenfell, "You have seen Hamlet." —"No," replied Moreton, "I have not seen Hamlet."—Pope, the Actor, is violent in His praise, and thus is opinion divided. What will Sir George Beaumont say of Him said Taylor?—

Sheridan in Prison

Taylor spoke to me of Sheridan, and told me that His affairs continue to be so distressed that He was lately arrested and kept for two days in a Lock-up House. He said that Sheridan is no longer in request at Carlton House. The circumstance of His personal confinement made an impression on His mind, so *Linley*, His Brother in Law, told Taylor.* Happening soon after, while at dinner, to Hear a clattering noise in the next room He was much alarmed, manifestly from apprehension of another arrest. On discovering that there was no material cause for it He endeavoured to turn it off lightly. Such was the situation of perhaps the first genius of the age.—

CHAPTER LXX

1814

Humanising Influence of Art

April 1.—Sanders [the architect] I dined with in Weymouth St.—Sanders dined at the Artists Benevolent Society Fund's annual dinner at the Freemasons Tavern the day before,—Mr. Charles Long in the *Chair.*

Mr. Whitbread spoke twice with great energy and effect. He bestowed the highest encomiums on Art and of its humanizing effects. He alluded to the different political opinions of Himself & Mr. Long when they met in Parliament, but when they were drawn together by the love of Art He said they had but one mind.—He eulogised Lord Wellington in the warmest terms, and compared His conduct with that of the *Usurper* of France (so He termed Buonaparte), the latter having plundered universally every country where He found works of Art, while on the contrary Lord Wellington having recovered the pictures which Joseph Buonaparte was carrying away, had sent them to England but to be restored to Spain whenever a Peace shd. be ratified [What about those at Apsley House?].

His speech produced an electrical effect upon the meeting, and their applause was unbounded. Mr. Whitbread noticed the professional merit of Henry Monro [son of Dr. Thomas Monro the friend of Turner and Girtin.], a young man under 23 years of age, who died on the 5th. of March having at that early age acquired posthumous fame. This instance He held up as an example to excite emulation in those youths who had devoted themselves to the study of the Arts.—

Labour in America

Col[l]. Stevenson spoke of America.* He said that about 3 years ago He travelled from South Carolina to Quebec, a distance of 1500 miles, and had seen much of the country and of the People. He held it to be impossible for the Americans to rival the English in manufactures in any degree for a Century to come. He observed the manufactories can only flourish where there are large masses of population. This America has not. That country is thinly peopled, and consequently the price of labour is high.—It will be long said He, before the Americans find it

not to be most for their advantage to send their raw articles (Cotton &c.) to England to be manufactured & to purchase them in that state.—

—In conversation it was agreed that the general sentiment throughout England was "*No Peace with Buonaparte.*"

April 2.—Lord Bathurst this day wrote to the *Lord Mayor* informing him that the *Negotiations* for *Peace* at Chatillon were at *an end.*—

Bergen-op-Zoom

April 3.—Mrs. Green spoke of Captn. Fitzgerald who married Her 2d. Daugr. He lately returned from Holland, & was at the attack of Bergen-op-zoom which proved so unfortunate. He mounted the Breach, and was several Hours in the enemy's quarters, but it being impossible to succeed the English troops retreated. In this fatal affair all the Officers of His Corps were either killed or wounded except Himself and another officer.

Dr. Monro has allowed both the pictures painted by His late Son, Henry Monro, which were now exhibiting at the British Institution, (one of which "Henry 8th & Cardinal Wolsey" had obtained the second Premium, 100 guineas given by the Institution), to be sold, and the Purchasers were a gentleman who resides somewhere in the country, and a merchant who has a House at Walworth.—It was considered very extraordinary that Dr. Monro should have let them go out of His family, as they did so much honour to His Son's memory, & were the best of His productions.—

Landscape by Rembrandt

The Revd. Holwell Carr overtook me on my way back & told me of an extraordinary picture, a landscape by Rembrandt, which He had purchased. He said He had lent it to Mrs. Long and was told she had made a good copy from it.*—

S. Lysons knew the Revd. Holwell Carr when He was at Exeter College, Oxford, 30 years ago, and at that time He employed much of His time in Painting. They sd. He was born in Devonshire, and was nephew to *Zephania Holwell*, one of the Survivors, of those who were enclosed in the Black Hole at Calcutta in the year 1759.—Holwell Carr obtained the valuable living of Menheniot near Liskeard in Cornwall, worth more than £2000 per annum. It is in the sole gift of the *Dean* of *Exeter*, and must be given to a *Member of Exeter College.* He married a Sister of the late Lord Errol, & took the name of Carr in addition to that of Holwell. By Her (who died some years ago) He had one child, a son, who also died at a young age. Had he lived He wd. have inherited a very large estate through His mother from His Grandfather.—

* The Rev. Holwell Carr bequeathed this picture to the National Gallery, where it now hangs as a work.

CHAPTER LXXI

1814

A Celebrated Comedian

April 3.—Leslock Wilson's I dined at.—Mrs. Boileau, widow of a Brother of Mrs. Wilson, who died at Calcutta, told me that she had resided 2 years & a half at St. Edmundsbury in Suffolk. She said the Society there was excellent, and on the most agreeable footing occasionally dinner parties but chiefly evening parties & cold suppers. She spoke of House rent being very dear, & provissions as at a high price for a country town, and the supply of fish not abundant or so fresh as it is had in London.—Mrs. Boileau sd. the air of St. Edmundsbury is extremely keen, & cannot be borne by those who have weak lungs, but to persons otherwise constituted is salutary.—

She said she had frequent intercourse with Mr. Smith, formerly a celebrated *Comedian* in London.* At 82 years of age He was still upright in His gait, and lively in spirits. He frequently makes morning visits, but never goes out in the evening. He had two or three times suffered from the rupture of a Blood Vessel, which occasions Him to live with caution. He twice married. His first wife was a Sister of Lord Courtney.—His 2d. wife who is still living, and two daughters form His domestic establishment.—

Prize Money

Captain Beaufort told me that when a French Frigate happened to be taken, Her value to the Captors was rated at about twelve pounds per ton, exclusive of Her Sails &c. & that a Frigate of 36 guns might at this rate be valued at towards £20,000.—The Captain commanding the victorious Ship has two-thirds of a third of Her total value, & the Admiral under whose orders He sails has one-third of a third.—

April 4.—I called on Davis (Cadell & Davis) & sat with him sometime & found him much improved in His general look. He said a trade in

* William Smith (1730? 1819), known as "Gentleman Smith", was educated at Eton and St. John's College, Cambridge, whence he was rusticated. He played under Garrick at Drury Lane in 1774, and made his last appearance there in 1788 as Charles Surface, a part in which he was unsurpassed.

Books is opening with Germany, but they are at present too poor to pay money, and their means of trading is by proposing to exchange German Books for English Books.—

No Peace With Buonaparte

April 5.—Constable called. He dined at the Bishop of Salisbury's on Sunday last & was told that the evening before the Bishop & His family were with a party to which Lord Ellenborough came in high spirits, and said " The negotiations for peace are at an end, I have the dispatches in my pocket".—The satisfaction expressed by His Lordship was communicated to all present, there being but one feeling & that of pleasure at " No Peace with Buonaparte".

Lawrence and the Hanging of Pictures

Martin Archer Shee [R.A.] spoke of the *arrangement* of the pictures & strongly signified His intention to do something of a determined kind should it not be conducted in such manner as He could. He expressed to Henry Thomson [R.A.] that He had no apprehension of what He (Thomson) might do, it was owing to His being one of the Committee that He (Shee) had resolved to exhibit; but He indicated a very different opinion of another (Lawrence). Thomson spoke of the uneasiness He had felt since this conversation, & He much urged to me to recommend to Lawrence to refrain more than at any other time from placing His own pictures in such places as to excite jealousy in the Members, for He (Thomson) added that though in a more moderate manner, there were others who thought that Lawrence was rapacious to obtain the best situations. Thomson sd. He should speak to Lawrence on the subject on the following morning when they should meet at the Academy as He, Lawrence, and Reinagle were the Committee appointed, but He wished me to prepare Lawrence for such conversation.—

Honour of The Academy

I told Him that it was uncertain whether I shd. see Lawrence or not, but that if I should see Him I wd. mention it to him. I also said that were I one of the Committee I wd. act as appeared to me best for the Honour of the Academy by making the finest display I could, & as far as might be consistent with this I would do the best I could for every individual Exhibitor, but I would not sacrifice the appearance of the Exhibition to gratify any man.

I added that Lawrence was unjustly charged with rapacity for situations, for whatever had been done for Him had been done without his knowledge often, & whatever had been done by myself was no more than

a faithful discharge of public duty.—Smirke wished *that Lawrence wd. altogether decline being of the Committee*; that it wd. stop conversation upon it, and raise Him above the suspicions of those who now speak so unfavourably of Him.—I agreed with Him on this point and He left me & went to Lawrence to communicate His sentiments upon it.—

Political Matters

We had conversation upon the present state of political affairs. We all concurred in rejoicing that Peace was not made with Buonaparte. Thomson said that a friend of His had lately conversed with Mr. Vansittart, Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the subject, & expressed some surprise at the Allies venturing to make a Peace which wd. establish Buonaparte on the French Throne. Mr. Vansittart replied, no danger wd. arise from that, as He would not remain in possession of it six months.

The Allies Enter Paris

Smirke called in the evening & brought a newspaper, *the Courier*, which He bought at the office, having gone there for that purpose, on hearing reports circulated.—It contained an account of the entrance of the Allies, with the Allied Sovereigns at their Head, having *entered Paris* on Thursday, March 31st.—We rejoiced at this great point being gained.—

London Gratified

April 6.—This morning the People of London were gratified by an Extraordinary *Gazette* being published announcing the Capture of Paris. Letters from Sir Charles Stewart, & Lord Burgersh stated all the particulars of the movements of the armies, and of several engagements in which the Allies were victorious.—Smirke I called on & found Him rejoicing over the contents of the *Gazette*.—

Academy Club I dined at.—At first meeting the members present were occupied with the subject of the Allies having entered Paris; all rejoiced at this great point being gained. Owen sd. that not more than a fortnight ago *Persons in High situations* expressed to Him strongly their doubts of Austria remaining firm to the Alliance unbiassed by the unfortunate connexion with Buonaparte, but the Proclamation of Prince Schwartzenberg to the Parisians had done away [with] that apprehension.—

An Altar Piece for St. James's Church

Conversation took place respecting an offer made by the Directors of the British [Institution] to Dr. Andrews, Rector of St. James's Church, to give the picture painted by *Hilton* & purchased by the Directors for

500 guineas, to that Church as an Altar piece. The Marquiss of Stafford was engaged in negotiating the business. Dr. Andrews did not give a decisive answer, till He had consulted Dr. Howley, Bishop of London, it was *then delivered.*

Rumour Busy

April 7.—I had company to dinner.—Mr. West was to have been of the party but forgot His engagement.—No party could now meet without making the situation of affairs in France a subject of conversation.—Excepting Lawrence we concurred in thinking that the Proclamation of Prince Schwartzenberg fully expressed that the Allies wd. not make Peace with Buonaparte, and required that the French People shd. appoint another authority. Lawrence held that should the Legislative Assembly still support Buonaparte the Allies must treat with Him.—Westall mentioned that many reports were in circulation. One, that there was an insurrection in Ireland; another that there had been more engagements in France, & that Buonaparte had been defeated, & taken Prisoner &c. &c.—

Kean, the actor, was spoken of. Lawrence said, that whether his conception of a character was just or not, He could act up to that conception with more truth and effect than *Young* could do when acting agreeably to *His own* conception.

CHAPTER LXXII

1814

Buonaparte Dynasty Ended

April 8.—Westall sent the *Courier* newspaper to me, which announced from the *Paris* newspapers of the 4th inst. " That the Senate had declared against Buonaparte. That they had declared him deprived of the Throne in a long Decree, signed by about 50 Senators. Talleyrand was at the Head. That a Provissional Government had been appointed & that the members were Talleyrand, Buomonville, Dalbey, Jaccour, and Montesquiou. That the Senate in a crowded sitting declared the Dynasty of Buonaparte at an end."

It was remarkable that on the 30th. of March when the Allied Armies were under the walls of Paris, there were in the newspapers of that day the usual *Theatrical Advertisements, Critiques* and *Fashions*, just as if Paris was in a state of profound tranquility.—

Elba

April 9.—Westall called to inform me that He had been told that Buonaparte had abdicated the French Throne, and accepted an offer of the Allied Powers to allow Him to retire to the Island of Elba.

The newspapers of the day, & the evening were filled with accounts from Paris of the progress making by the Provisional Government under the protection of the Allies, to compleat the downfall of Buonaparte's power; to form a new Constitution; and to restore the Bourbons.—The Park guns were fired at past 8 oClock in the evening.—

Scarcity of Newspapers

April 10.—Easter Sunday.—I went to St. James's Chapel & recd. the Holy Sacrament, & did not leave the Chapel till past two oClock. The number of Communicants manifestly increasing.—The Public desire for information from France was this day so great that the Shops of some of the Editors were beset with persons calling for Papers. All the Stamps of *Bell's Messenger* were exhausted, and the scarcity of papers was such that the Newspaper Horns were not heard about the streets as usual upon less interesting occasions.—

The Abdication of Buonaparte was announced. An Extraordinary *Gazette* was published last night at 8 oClock as follows—

" Foreign Office, *April 9th.* 8. P.M.

" Dispatches have been this day recd. at this Office from General Lord Viscount Cathcart K.T. announcing the abdication of the Crowns of France, & Italy, by Napoleon Buonaparte, in terms of which the following is a translation :—

" *The Allied Powers having proclaimed that the Emperor Napoleon was the only obstacle to the re-establishment of the Peace of Europe, the Emperor Napoleon, faithful to His oath, declares that He renounces for Himself and His Heirs, the Thrones of France and Italy, and that there is no personal sacrifice, even that of life, which He is not ready to make to the interest of France.*

" *Done at the Palace of Fontainbleau the 6th. April,* 1814 ".

Malignant and Remorseless

Lord Bathurst wrote to the Lord Mayor informing His Lordship that the Public Offices wd. be illuminated on Monday, April 11th.—Thus terminated the reign of one of the most malignant and remorseless tyrants that ever existed.—

April 12.—Lady Beaumont called after breakfast,—full of the happy change in France, but regretted that Buonaparte should be so liberally provided for in His exile, and that *Talleyrand,* & other characters like Him shd. be now employed in settling the affairs of France; men so unworthy of any respectable situation.

" The Lock "

April 13.—Constable called to inform me that at the close of the British Institution Exhibition to make room for the works of Wilson, Hogarth & Gainsborough, He not having sold His picture of the *Lock scene* (Landscape) was applied to by James Carpenter, the Bookseller in Bond St. who said He cd. not afford to pay the money He would willingly do, but He wd. give Him 20 guineas in money, and Books to a certain amount beyond that sum. Constable accepted the offer, & I told Him I thought He did well.—

Edmund Kean and the Kemble School

Kean, the actor, was spoken of, Sir George had not seen Him, the difficulty of getting places was great. Kean had been indisposed. Sir

George sd. He already could from what He had heard of Kean judge to a pretty good certainty who would and who would not like Him. The admirers, or at least the admirers & *friends* of Kemble would not like Him, He had found this to be the case, in several instances. Others who remembered *Garrick* spoke highly of Him, & Sir George seemed to mean that those who felt *nature* strongly approved Kean, while those who were devoted to the art of the Kemble School disapproved Him.—Prince Hoare sd. He was much pleased with Kean's acting, but He thought their stile of acting was very different & that people might be gratified both by Kemble & Kean.—

Dulwich Art Gallery

Academy General Meeting I walked to in the evening.—A correspondence with Mr. John Allen, Governor of Dulwich College, was read. The subject of it was to place the Collection of Pictures left by Sir F. Bourgeois to Dulwich College under the superintendence of the President & Council of the Royal Academy.—

Book Publishing

April 16.—Cadell* the publisher called. He spoke of the state of His partner, Mr. William Davies health with great concern. Cadell attributed His disorder to two causes,—a multitude of concerns in business which overcharged His mind,—and living full if not freely when in company. This at 56 years of age was more than His constitution could bear. His complaint in His head has had a sensible effect on His temper which had become very irritable when in any state of controversy on any subject. He had Seven children with a prospect of an increasing number, which is also a consideration on His mind, & looking at the large stock on hand owing to the interruption of commerce on the Continent, and the still greater loss from the *American Ports* being shut, He is affected with anxiety. Cadell spoke of the Book-selling trade to America as being of more importance than that which is carried on with the whole of the European Continent.

Lascelles Hoppner called. He told me that from the period of His Father's death He had been principally occupied in finishing pictures begun by His Father,—so as not to have been able to do much that might be called His own work.—

April 18.—Mr. Sunderland of Ulverstone called. He spoke of the revived state of trade in Lancashire, where masters were now over-bidding each other to obtain hands to work. He, like others, spoke of the change which has taken place in Europe as almost miraculous.—

*Thomas Cadell the younger took over his father's business in 1793.

CHAPTER LXXIII

1814

American War

April 18.—James Boswell said that when Francis Jeffrey* the Editor of the *Edinburgh Review*, was lately in America, He was in company with *Mr. Maddison* the *President* who was desirous to know from Jeffrey what the People of England thought of the War with America. Jeffrey declined answering till pressed to it. He then said, " Half the People of England do not know that there is war with America, and those who did have forgotten it."

Lord Eldon's Superiority

Boswell, being of the Profession of the Law, spoke of the general Professional opinion of *Lord Eldon.* He said, that Lord Eldon was superior in legal knowledge to any other person in the Court of Chancery, & the greatest Lawyer that Has sat in that Court since Lord Hardwicke presided in it.—He is slow in His decisions because He sees so much to be said on both sides, and acting very conscientiously, when His decisions are made they remain undisturbed by any hope of proving them wrong.—

Definition of Taste

Boswell's Father, who wrote the life of Dr. Johnson, had a fancy to collect from many able men their respective opinions [on] How *Taste* should be defined.—Among others He applied to Lord Eldon who said " I won't tell you what I think, because you will print it." Boswell assured Him He wd. not. " Then," sd. Lord Eldon, " my opinion is that *Taste* is that faculty of the mind which enables a Scotchman to prefer England to Scotland."—

Of Lord Ellenborough, Boswell sd. That He is not so profound as a Lawyer as He is able in summing up evidence & directing a Jury.—

[John] Tay[lor] was spoken of. Boswell sd. such is His habit of flattery to everyone that His approbation is of no value. He wd. be best stopped, sd. Boswell, by the person to whom He addresses himself saying to Him, " I know what you are going to do, spare yourself the trouble, for all you can say to me I feel, being satisfied with my own excellence."

* Afterwards Lord Jeffrey.

The King of France in London

April 20.—Louis 18th. King of France, being to come to London this day from His residence at Hartwell in Buckinghamshire, I saw people moving in great numbers along Oxford Street towards Oxford Turnpike & Paddington. After painting till past 3 oClock I walked out, & proceeded through Portman square to Oxford St. which I found lined with people on both sides, & a continued line of Carriages with Ladies & Gentlemen in them, they & their Servants wearing White Cockades, which were also worn by numbers of the lower orders of the People, Butchers servants, Labourers &c. Cavalry were riding forwards & backwards to keep the middle of the street clear. The windows of the Houses were also filled with persons anxiously waiting for the arrival of the French Monarch.—

The Prince Regent Meets Louis XVIII

I proceeded from Oxford St. along the Edgware road to the Half mile stone amused with observing the people who were very orderly. A little before 5 oClock a great number of persons on Horseback those who had rode to some distance to have a first view of the Cavalcade, came riding hastily forward, & the Royal Carriages of the Prince Regent soon appeared advancing at the rate of between five and Six miles an Hour, preceded by Cavalry. After several carriages had passed containing French Noblemen, & in one of them the Duchesse D'Angoulême, the Carriage of Louis 18th followed. He sat on the right hand *forward*, & I was struck with the resemblance He bore to the print of His Brother the late Louis 16th.

Though sd. to be afflicted with the gout He appeared to be in very good Health. There were Noblemen in the carriage with him. The lane was narrow where I stood and I was within a few yards of him. The last Carriage in the Cavalcade was that in which the Prince Regent rode, He having gone to Stanmore to meet the French King. A large Body of Cavalry followed the Prince Regent's carriage which at the rate they drove was soon out of sight :—

Farington and Fate

Having thus satisfied my curiosity without giving up more time or taking more trouble than a something longer walk than usual, I returned home slowly, and was much gratified with the expressions of pleasure general among the people,—the driving of carriages,—the racing of Horsemen,—and all witht. any accident that I saw or the least inconvenience to anyone,—My walk towards home seemed short for my mind was occupied with the remembrance of what I saw in Paris in 1802 of Buonaparte at the height of popular admiration contrasting it with the thought of His now fallen state, while on the contrary I had just seen a

Monarch who less than six weeks ago seemed to be for ever excluded from the Throne of His Ancestors now called for by those who had expelled Him from His native Country, to return to Honour and glory.—

[Dr] Hayes I met today. On my asking Him whether He wd. not go to see the procession He replied He would go in any other direction rather than to see a *Bourbon*, who, said He, in three years of time will be at war with you in return for what you have done for them.—He admitted, however, that Europe was now in a happier situation than perhaps at any former period, and said the conduct of the Emperor of Russia was noble in the highest degree.—

Praise for Constable

April 23.—St. George's Day.—Constable called. He had been to the Academy & had seen *Strowger*, who told Him that there had been a desire to place His pictures advantageously as they had been removed, or others had been removed, when it was seen that pictures near them injured their effect.—He saw Thomson at the Academy who was very cordial with him & spoke particularly of the merits of His small pictures, saying also that His large picture had good parts in it.—

Richard Himself

Sir George Beaumont spoke of Kean, the new Actor, having seen Him in the Character of Richard the 3d and was decidedly of opinion that no actor since Garrick exhibited so much genuine *feeling of nature*. At times, sd. He, He appears to be Richard himself. He never, said He, can have dignity or grace, His person is too diminutive, but He is a true natural actor, and wholly free from the measured and artificial practise of the Kemble school.—

Important Exhibition

At the British Institution we saw the pictures painted by Wilson, Gainsborough, Hogarth, & Zoffany sent for exhibition most of them arranged. I pointed out some of those sd. to be by Wilson that were not *original*. He had before noticed some of them & sd. He should speak to the Directors of the Institution to have them removed. He told me that Sir Thos. Bernard & Mr. P. Knight had objected to the pictures by Zoffany being admitted, as He was not a *British Painter*, but this objection was over-ruled upon the ground of His having passed most of His life in this country, in which He was naturalised, and also devoted His pencil to paint English subjects particularly those of a Theatrical kind which contained the most celebrated actors, Garrick &c.—

Mr. Raper at the Antiquary Society room told me that a paragraph had appeared that day in one of the newspapers, expressing great contempt

for Lord Aberdeen* who had, it stated, shewn Himself so incompetent to transact business of a political kind, when in conjunction with the French Agents.

Lady Anne Barnard's Proposal

April 24.—Lawrence called in the morning & told me that Col[l]. McMahon had informed Him that Lady Anne Barnard (Sister to Countess of Hardwicke & Lord Balcarras and author of the Song "Auld Robin Gray") had written a long letter to the Prince Regent proposing to Him that as the Emperor of Russia, & the King of Prussia were expected in England that the opportunity should be taken to have a picture painted in which those Monarchs & the Prince Regent should be introduced, and that it should be a picture of a kind to commemorate the great events which had taken place in which these high characters had appeared so conspicuous.

The Prince Regent was pleased with the proposal, and after some conversation with Col[l]. McMahon adopted the recommendation of Lady Anne Barnard that Lawrence should be the Painter employed.—The Prince Regent further expressed that He wished to have the Portrait of Col[l]. McMahon which was painted by Lawrence and intended for the Duke of Northumberland, at whose instance Col[l]. McMahon told the Prince Regent Lawrence was appointed to paint the picture.—

Lawrence and a Pupil

Lawrence came in the evening and at His desire I gave Him my opinion of the terms on which He might take as a Pupil Mr. Agar, a natural son of Lord Callan, who was desirous to become His pupil. Upon the ground of His receiving professional assistance from Mr. Agar or not I recommended that if Mr. Agar shd. remain with him not more than 3 years which cd. be little profitable to Him (Mr. Lawrence) professionally, He should ask 500 guineas,—if Mr. Agar shd. continue with Him 4 years, 400 guineas, if 5 years, 300 guineas.—He sd. Mr. Agar had recd. instructions from Ashby a Portrait Painter, who advised Him to apply to Mr. Lawrence to obtain further instructions.—

April 28.—Bone called to day to desire me to place His name at the table at the Academy dinner near that of Mr. George Bowles who purchased at 2200 guineas His Enamel picture of "Bacchus & Ariadne" after Titian. He sd. Mr. Bowles was Brother to Lady Northwick.†—

* "The Travell'd Thane," as Lord Byron called him, was then President of the Society of Antiquaries.

† In the Beckitt sale 1885 an enamel of "Bacchus and Ariadne" after Titian, by Henry Bone, fetched £116 11s.

CHAPTER LXXIV

1814

Louis XVIII

May 2.—Philip Hamond I dined with at His House 32 Upper George St. Portman Square.—Mr. Rolfe, one of the party at dinner spoke of the present French King as being very sensible and thoroughly versed in the politics of Europe. He added that His habit of living is in one respect remarkable. While He resided at Hartwell in Buckinghamshire it was His daily custom (generally speaking) to drink four bottles of *Port Wine*, that being His favourite liquor.—

We dined at 7 oClock. The conversation after dinner was partly upon the Happy prospect of the state of Europe, and partly upon the subject of sporting. The taking off the *Property tax* was looked to as a great relief, but there was some apprehension that it wd. be continued. All were cordial for giving America a proper punishment for the shameful conduct of Her government.—

Lord Althorp's Marriage

P. Hamond spoke of Lord [Althorp] as being a man of a very open and agreeable disposition. He was very lately married to Miss Acklom, a young Lady with abt. £7000 a yr. near Bawtry in Yorkshire.* Lord [Althorp's] mother, Lady Spencer, made up the match in London. Six weeks before His marriage He had so little expectation of such an event that He took from a Clergyman One Hundred pounds to return One thousand pounds whenever He shd. marry & He had before done the same with two other persons.—In marrying He complied with the wishes of Lord & Lady Spencer, it was not of His own seeking.

May 3.—John Taylor spoke of *Kean* the Actor to Sir George differing from Him entirely in opinion. Taylor sd. "Kean has art in His acting in attempting to give touches of nature, but it is low, vulgar art, without dignity or elevated conception of character."—Sir George did not yield to this opinion.—

The Princess of Wales

The British Institution first evening Exhibition I went to between nine & ten oClock and remained there till Eleven. The rooms were nearly full when I arrived, great numbers of the most fashionable people being assembled.—The Princess of Wales [was there], attended by Lady Ann

* Esther, heir of Richard Acklom, of Wiseton Hall, Notts.

Hamilton.—Mr. Whitbread had much conversation with the Princess of Wales, & Mr. P. Knight attended Her through different rooms. Her person had become very large, and coarse. Her shoulders and arms greatly so.

She was very little noticed by the company excepting in a general way so that had a stranger been there He would have seen nothing to draw His attention to Her, and might have left the rooms witht. any knowledge of Her being there. Her countenance in the general expression I thought quick and very much that of a person who could act for Herself. Her whole appearance exhibited nothing of feminine grace or dignity, nor was there any taste shewn in Her manner or in Her dress.—

The pictures seemed to engage but little of the attention of the company. The objects in most of them were too small to be seen at any distance, & there was a general complaint that the lights in the rooms were not sufficient to enable the pictures to be seen.—

The Queen's Pictures

May 4.—Simpson I called on at the Queen's Library & saw two pictures by Rubens "a Landscape," and a "Snowpiece," which He was cleaning for the Queen's Palace; also three other pictures, two of them by Rubens viz: "St. Martin dividing His Cloke" and "Philip 2nd" on Horseback, and one, a family by Vandyke, all cleaning to be put up in the Queen's Palace preparatory to the arrival of the Emperor of Russia who was expected on the 15th. inst.

The Order of St. Esprit

Lawrence called on me this morning, & showed me a letter written to Him by Lady Anne Barnard on the subject of having two pictures painted, one of them to represent what lately passed at Grillon's Hotel, where, as *she stated* it, the King of France taking from His shoulders the order of St. Esprit, threw it over the neck of the Prince Regent, saying—"To you, Sir, I have owed my all! even my sustenance.—I have nothing to give but *this*—keep it to remind you of Louis 18th."—

In the other picture she wd. have represented the Emperor of Russia & the King of Prussia,—& the Prince Regent, with such allusions to the present happy state of public affairs as might seem appropriate.—

Lawrence told me that the Princess Charlotte attended by Miss Knight, called on Him on Sunday & remained at His House three-quarters of an Hour. He was much pleased with Her conversation it being such as to give Him a favourable opinion of Her capacity and *disposition*.

Buonaparte's Desire

May 8.—Lysons told me that Captn. Stevenson, who has the care of the Royal Household at Windsor had seen a letter from Genl. or Colonel Campbell, who was with Buonaparte at Fontainbleau, stating that on His abdication Buonaparte did express His desire to be allowed to go to England; He said He knew the English hated Him, but He was certain notwithstanding that He should be safe in that country. When this request was refused,

He desired that He might be sent to the Island of Elba in or under the protection of an English Frigate. This was not granted.—Mrs. Baillie, wife of Dr. Baillie also saw Genl. Campbell's letter & mentioned to Lysons the same circumstances.—Lysons' sd. that He was informed that the Emperor of Austria is an extremely weak man, almost to idiotism.—

May 9.—Prince Hoare called, to express His hope that the Royal Academy wd. receive the Emperor of Russia, & the other Monarchs who were expected in the most marked manner. He thought that all the Members of the Academy should attend on the day appointed for receiving the Emperor of Russia and that there shd. be placed within His view in the Academy a Copy of a magnificent Resolution published by Him for the encouragement of Art in His own Dominions to show Him how much His liberality & munificence was felt in this country. I told Him I wd. speak to Lawrence on the subject.

Lawrence called, & told me that He had completed an agreement with Mr. Agar, natural Son of Lord Callan, & that He had commenced His studies with Him; the terms £500 for three years.

Haydon's "Judgment of Solomon"

May 15.—Lane spoke of Haydon's picture, "The Judgment of Solomon," exhibited at the Water Colour Society's room in Spring Gardens as being a most extraordinary performance; a magnificent work, such as no other young man could produce. Haydon had executed it under great pecuniary difficulties; having subsisted upon borrowed money. Had He failed He wd. have been ruined. He told Lane that when the Canvass on which He painted the picture was bought from the Colourman, He sat before it, and while contemplating it had not sixpence in His pocket for the purchase of a candle.—He sd. He had knocked down the British Institution. The Directors of it had been inimical to Him. Mr. R. P. Knight one of the leading Directors He had opposed in His (Knight's) remarks on Art & Artists in a criticism on the life of *Barry* in the *Edinburgh Review*, by publishing letters in the *Examiner* Newspaper shewing the fallacy of Knight's remarks & the injustice of his representation.

He considered that Knight bore this in mind, for while attending the Princess of Wales at a private view of the Water Colour Society Exhibition, on Her looking at *Haydon's* picture, He drew Her attention from it by saying it was a Bombastical performance.

Haydon had also been overlooked the preceding year by the Directors who gave no premiums to the picture He sent "Macbeth" to the British Institution. The general opinion being now so decidedly in His favour caused Him to triumph. Sir Wm. Elford & Mr. Tichincombe of Plymouth had purchased His "Judgment of Solomon" for 700 guineas, & meant to present it to the Town Hall at Plymouth,—which town it was supposed Sir William & Mr. Tichincombe meant to attempt to represent in Parliament. The frame of the picture cost 60 guineas.

CHAPTER LXXV

1814

Dr. Jenner's Recommendation

May 15.—Lysons I called on in the afternoon. He looked ill. His face a bad colour & thin; His eyes yellow and heavy, with a quick light spot at the point of vision. He spoke as desirous to make the best of His state, but said He had not got the better of His essential complaint; that He went to bed at ½ past 10 & usually slept 7 hours, and when He rose at ½ past 6 or 7 oClock His pulse was at 80, but after any exercise or exertion it still rose to 90 or more, and what He called "a sinking of the Heart" accompanied it. Dr. Jenner recommended to Him to eat *roast meat* in preference to Boiled meat, as it contained more nourishment, and He advised him to dine of *meat* & Bread only, forbearing *from vegetables*, as by that means He would take in a larger proportion of really nourishing food.

It was strongly recommended to Him by Dr. Baillie & Dr. Jenner to forbear from application to study, as rest for His mind was highly necessary; but, said He, "What can I do, I cannot sit wholly idle?" I told Him that His known activity and industry made the advice of His Physicians prudent, but that I apprehended that if He would limit His application so far as to make it rather an *amusement*, it might be beneficial to Him. It was over-exertion of mind that was dangerous. Before I left Him I manifestly saw that He was considerably weakened in His bodily state, for contrary to His usual ardent manner, His conversation sunk into short answers to what I said. On the whole I felt convinced that His constitution was labouring under great difficulty. He said He continued to take the *Blue Pill* every night, containing 5 grains of mercury so prepared as to moderate its effect. He was prohibited the use of wine or malt liquor.

Louis XVIII's Return to France

He told me He dined the day before with a family where He is intimate & Captn. Sir John Beresford, Brother to Marshal, Lord Beresford, was there. Sir John commanded the Royal yatch which carried over from Dover to Calais, Louis 18th & His Suite. He said that during the passage

the Duchess of Angouleme was very much affected, arising it was supposed from the reflections on the miseries she had shared in while with Her Father Louis 16th. He said that when Louis 18th landed at Calais, His first footstep was marked by the French who were near, on which spot it was proposed that a monument shd. be raised to record His return to His native country.

Princess Charlotte and the Prince of Orange

Lysons had heard that the Princess Charlotte demurred to marry the Prince of Orange unless it should be allowed that she should have an establishment formed for Her in England; as by going to Holland Her importance wd. be lessened. This has been objected to as it would open to Her if she should be placed upon an independent establishment, an opportunity for frequent communication with Her mother, who she had not seen for 4 months past, it being thought advisable to prevent such communication as it is known that Her mother (the Princess of Wales) hates the *Orange family*.—When the marriage takes place the Prince Regent wishes it to be a public marriage like His own, but this is opposed with a difficulty as the Princess of Wales has said, that in such case she would attend.—

Holwell Carr and a Correggio

May 16.—Mr. Champernowne [art collector] also came for His ticket. He asked me whether I knew Holwell Carr, & immediately proceeded to tell what happened at Mr. Knight's between Him & Lawrence respecting the picture by Correggio at Mr. Angerstein's; and said Sir George Beaumont was going abt. everywhere & telling it to everybody. The story was, that in the presence of Lord Ashburnham, Lord Mulgrave, the Marquiss of Stafford & others, Holwell Carr with His arms *akimbo* went up to Lawrence & sd. "Mr. Lawrence, the picture at Mr. Angerstein's which is called a Correggio, I say, is a copy,"*—to which Lawrence replied "Mr. Carr, that picture is well known to Mr. West & to myself, and to several other artists, & we & they think [it is] a true & a fine picture by Correggio, & would hold in contempt Mr. Carr's opinion in opposition to their opinion."—Champernowne told it in a triumphant way as a proper check upon the presumption of Carr.—

Nollekens and the Architect

Joseph Nollekens I called on, not having seen him at His own House for a long time. He looked much aged & infirm, & said He had been much troubled with giddiness in His Head, feeling like a drunken man, & that

* This picture, the "Agony In the Garden," forms one of the Angerstein Collection at the National Gallery, but in the catalogue it is said to be a copy of the original in the Duke of Wellington's collection.

He had been *cupped* the day before to relieve Him. He was notwithstanding modelling & had a bust of Lord Dillon before Him.—He told me of the death of Richardson, the Architect, & sd. that being in a state of poverty He had for a considerable time allowed Richardson £20 per annum.

Why Buonaparte Abdicated

Robert Smirke I dined with. We had much conversation abt. French affairs.—Lawrence had seen a letter from a person of good authority which stated that previous to the abdication of Buonaparte several of His Marshals went to Him, & told Him they felt confident of having [a] force sufficient to enable them to engage the Allied armies & to defeat them, but they must reckon upon a loss of 20,000 men, & the Allied Armies wd. still amount to such a number as they shd. not be able again to meet with a sufficient force as they cd. not raise men for the purpose. Upon this consideration Buonaparte resolved to abdicate.—

His Popularity

Lawrence also stated from the same information, that in several parts of France through which Buonaparte had to pass on His way to the Island of Elba His popularity was known to be great, which caused those who escorted Him to proceed in the night time to prevent interruption. He also said that in the instrument drawn up for His abdication He was designated as an *Emperor*, & was to pass to Elba where He was to hold Sovereignty.—I sd. that might be to gratify the Emperor of Austria, who meaning to uphold the Son of Buonaparte by His daughter, might not think it proper to allow Buonaparte to be wholly degraded.

Garrick and Lord Camden

Lawrence said the Marquiss Camden had been sitting to Him & that He spoke of the acquaintance which subsisted between His Father, the late Lord Camden (High Chancellor) and *Garrick*. He said that for one whole Season they agreed to meet every morning at 8 oClock in Lincolns Inn Gardens & to walk for an Hour, which they really did. Lawrence mentioned this as a proof of the intellectual talents of Garrick which enabled Him to maintain such an intercourse with a man of such ability as Lord Camden who must have highly relished the conversation of the former.—

CHAPTER LXXVI

1814

Dress for a Lord Mayor's Dinner

May 17.—Robert Smirke [Junior] told me Ralph Price gave to Him & to Lawrence each a Ticket for the Lord Mayor's dinner at the Mansion House on last Easter Monday & not being informed how people went dressed they went in the ordinary way with *round Hats.* At the Mansion House they were shown into the *state room* after passing through a range of the Lord Mayor's officers, and found a large assembly many of them persons of the first distinction, Ministers of State, the Duke of Devonshire &c. all *full dressed* as for a Royal Court, & they were the only persons who were not so dressed. Lawrence retired as much as He could from being noticed, but Robt. Smirke was formally introduced to the Lady Mayoress who sat in state with a Hoop dress. Till they sat down to dinner they felt very uncomfortable although they were relieved by the Duke of Devonshire & others speaking to Lawrence & Mr. Brag Bathurst to Him, to whom He explained that He had no knowledge of the usage on such occasions.—

I had some conversation with Mrs. Siddons, who I thought much aged in appearance.—Peter Coxe with His mind filled with His poetical compositions, fixed upon me and repeated a great number of lines on " *Guido's Aurora* " not a line of which could I hear.—

Kean the Actor

May 19.—Sir George Beaumont talked much abt. Kean, the Actor, and of many of his peculiar excellencies in the character of Othello, & of Richard the 3rd.—He said there was at times a fire in his acting that was electric ; & that His smile was bewitching. He rejoiced that such a man had appeared on the stage to bring it back to truth and nature. He admitted that there were particular characters, Coriolanus for instance, to which Kemble's stile of acting was suited, but He must say that Kemble did not touch his feeling.—

Sir George and Haydon

He sd. He had become reconciled with Haydon, to whom He went up & congratulated Him upon the great merit of His picture " The Judgment

of Solomon," & Haydon recd. His address most warmly & with both hands. Sir George, however, now referred to the attack upon Him in the *Examiner*, in which though not by name He was stated to have acted towards Haydon unjustly.—I sd. that was written by Robt. Hunt.—He remarked that Hunt must have had the matter improperly stated to him.—

Tears, Silver and Bank Notes

May 22.—I went to St. James's Chapel where Dr. Andrews preached for the benefit of the St. James's Female Charity Children. His text was from the 10th Chapter of St. Mathew, verse 8. Parts of His Sermon, lasting 22 minutes, were extremely impressive. My eyes were filled with tears. The Plates of the Collectors at the doors were well filled with Silver & very many Bank notes.—

A Blackleg

Lady B[eaumont] spoke to me of a young Nobleman who had caused much uneasiness to His friends. He has acted at Newmarket as a *Blackleg* (dishonourably) having endeavoured contrary to a prescribed rule to substitute a Horse which had before run for one which He was to bring forward as new to the turf, this He did by cutting the tail & doing other things to prevent detection, but the fraud was discovered.—His Mother told Lady B, that she lamented it having been His Father's wish when He was a youth to make Him the best Horseman in England.* This led Him to the stable and to intercourse with Jockies &c.—

A Vandyke Painting

Wm. Wells called & sat with me sometime having come to London to see the Exhibitions. He told me the Prince Regent wished to have His picture containing 3 portraits of Charles 1st. by Vandyke, & that Lord Yarmouth had offered 500 guineas for it.—†

Talleyrand and the Bourbons

Lysons dined with us, and in the even'g I went with him to Sir Joseph Bankes's *Converzatione*; where many persons were assembled. Mr. Blake having gone to Paris the beginning of April gave me many particulars of what He saw & learnt there.—When he arrived there He found the people speaking in a very subdued tone acknowledging that they were a conquered people.—He said that *Talleyrand* in a conversation with the Emperor of Russia & the King of Prussia which lasted two Hours was for a long time undecided "Whether to support the Bourbons or not," but at

* See Chapter XXXVIII.

† Farington was asked to approach his friend Wells and he ultimately parted with the picture for 1000 guineas. It now hangs at Windsor Castle, one of the most important works in the King's Collection.

last decided for them. Even then it was a point of very critical [kind]. When Buonaparte was informed that the Emperor of Russia & the King of Prussia, wd. not make peace with [Him] and felt that He cd. not oppose [them] He sent Marshals [Ney] & Macdonald with an offer to abdicate in favor of His Son & that the Empress shd. be a Regent.

When they arrived at Paris the Senate was sitting, and it was believed wd. have accepted the offer had it been made to them, but the Marshals proceeded to Talleyrand & there saw the Emperor & King, and Talleyrand on being informed of their errand sent privately to Members of the Senate who acted in conjunction with Him, to decide for the restoration of the *Bourbons* which was immediately done.—

When the Marshals returned to Buonaparte He commanded them to deliver their message aloud which they did. The Officers of His staff and His army abt. 30,000, men, instantly professed themselves ready to do whatever He might require and His first determination was to proceed to Paris ; but by some who were with Him it was shewn that it wd. be hopeless to endeavour to force His way through the Allied army of 130,000 men, & He gave it up.—

Louis XVIII and Blucher

When Louis 18th. entered Paris the people and the National Guard received Him with acclamations, but Buonapartes Imperial Guard were invincibly sulky, & did not join in any testimony of approbation. Mr. Blake thought there wd. be still much trouble in France, there being great numbers unprovided for, and strong prejudices to be conquered.—He saw General *Blucher* at a gaming table win a great deal of money. He has a passion for gaming.

He found the people in France everywhere extremely well disposed towards the English who appeared among them. On the road they expressed to Mr. Blake & His companions that now they saw the English they looked upon their distresses as being at an end.—

Emperor and King

He was pleased with the appearance of the Emperor of Russia who with some show of a love of display of His person, exhibited an open countenance & sufficient indication of a good understanding. The King of Prussia, He thought, had much the look of a *Highlander*, having high cheek bones, and a weather-beaten complexion.—They were very much respected in Paris by the People & rode abt. witht. attendants, and the Princes of their families walked about as private gentlemen do.—

Preparations were making for the restoration of many works of Art which Buonaparte had taken from various places in the countries which His Armies had subjected.—

CHAPTER LXXVII

1814

The Building of Lowther Castle

May 26.—Robert Smirke I called on. He spoke of His engagement with Lord Lonsdale who had expressed a desire to know what His charge wd. be for building Lowther Castle. R. Smirke told His Lordship that 5 pr. cent upon the money which His Lordship *had expended* was the settled charge of an Architect. Lord L: observed that *His expenditure* had been greatly lessened as many of the most material articles for building were upon His premises & cost Him nothing but labour. On enquiry at Lowther in the *Clerks Office* it was computed that this part of the value of the building might be estimated at 25 or £30,000, on which Lord L. signified that R. Smirke must consider that as part of the expence,—but He (R. S.) told me that He shd. in a written statement shew to Lord L. that His actual trouble had been considerably lessened by these articles being so provided & that He consequently cd. not charge them in the usual way: By this, said He, "I shall upon my calculation forego receiving abt. £1200, but I shall make it appear that it is a sum which I do not abstain from taking in such a way as to make it seem as if I was giving Him the money, which wd. be an indelicacy shewn Him."

I expressed much satisfaction at His intention & told Him that when I was at Lowther in 1808 I sd. to Lord L. "Such is my opinion of R. Smirke that should not the business He is carrying on for your Lordship be concluded in the most satisfactory manner no one will be more disappointed than myself."

Mr. J. J. Angerstein, while speaking of the great increase of London, he said nothing was more remarkable than the increase of the number of Musick shops & Fishmongers stalls. He recollected when there was only one Fishmonger between Charing Cross & St. Pauls,—and there were only 2 musick shops in London.—He was very cordial & on my coming away expressed his hope that I shd. soon dine with him.—We talked of Lawrence & I spoke of His great professional application. Notwithstanding it is so, sd. Mrs. Boucheret, People believe He [is] idle because their pictures remain unfinished. That is owing, I replied, to commissions being pressed upon him.

DUCHESS OF OLDENBURG
By H. L'Eveque

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C. Bowles called on me after my return home. He had just arrived from Paris, an excursion for a fortnight,—was astonished at the Picture gallery,—Paris a fine city,—the Emperor of Russia to whom He was introduced, a fine man ;—the people tranquil, & the expenses moderate.—

The Duchess of Oldenburgh

May 29.—I had company at dinner. Dick spoke of a conversation He had yesterday with Col[l]. Stanley respecting the Duchess of Oldenburgh. A few days ago the Duchess went to the Bank of England and saw the whole of the arrangements of that establishment. She was attended by the Governor or Deputy Governor of the Bank &c. On her coming away He addressed [her] on the great change which had taken place in Europe and ascribed it to the magnanimous exertions of Her Brother, the Emperor of Russia, in high complimentary terms. She replied, "Oh no! The emancipation of Europe is owing to the steady & persevering conduct of this great & happy country ; to this country Europe owes its deliverance." —In a letter written to Her Brother the Emperor at Paris, she expressed Her admiration of England in the strongest terms, and assured Him that in the few weeks she had been in this country she had seen and learnt more than in Her whole life before she came to it.

CHAPTER LXXVIII

1814

David's Tears for Benjamin West

June 1.—Royal Academy Club I went to.—Owen [R.A.] informed us that He had learnt that the French Artists hold Mr. Benjamin West in the highest esteem as an artist, and that when David spoke of him He was quite moved even to tears. For other British artists they have no applause.

Directors and a Bishop

June 2.—Revd. Mr. Matthew I met in my walk before dinner.—He complained of the rude behaviour of several of the low persons who unfortunately were made Directors of the Poor of St. Pancrass. Many gentlemen have declined going to the Board on that acct.—He told me that Dr. Middleton, Vicar of St. Pancrass married a daugr. of Dr. Prettyman, Bishop of Lincoln. He is abt. 45 years old, & has been appointed Bishop of Calcutta with an Income of £5000 pr. annum, & £1200 for the expences of His passage to India, also that the Prince Regent addresses Him " My Lord," which was not expected as the Bishops in England have that title as Barons in Parliament.

Princess Charlotte and the Queen

Dick, Eliza, Marianne & Harry [relatives of Farington] went to day to St. James's Park to see the Prince Regent; Princess Charlotte &c. &c. go to the Queen's Drawing room at the Queen's Palace, where the Princess Charlotte was to be *presented to the Queen [for] the first time.* On acct. of a correspondence of the Queen with the Princess of Wales expressing that owing to a resolution of the Prince Regent not to meet the Princess of Wales either in Public or Private, Her Majesty could not receive Her at the Drawing room, the mob hissed and hooted the Prince Regent very much.—

Wellington's Mind and Military Talents

June 3.—Ralph Price dined at Mr. Maryatt's M.P. a few days ago. Lieut: Genl. Sir Thomas Picton was one of the party, and gave them

much interesting information respecting the Duke of Wellington, with enthusiastic admiration of His extraordinary power of mind and superior military talents. He related the following anecdotes.—

Previous to the Battle of Orchies in which He defeated the Army of Marshal Soult, Lord Wellington had a great task to perform in arranging His army so as to enable it to undertake to dislodge Soult's army from positions difficult to be attacked. After much personal exertion in different quarters, He took a general view of the position of His troops, and after some contenplation, He said to Sir Thomas Picton, " I think we have done all we can ; nothing more seems necessary," and dismounting from His Horse He sat down & in a few minutes was fast asleep. This Sir Thomas mentioned as an instance of the calmness of His mind in a situation of difficulty & uncertainty.—

The Ministry and Wellington

Sometime since in the House of Lords, Marquiss Wellesley attacked the Ministry for not properly supplying Lord Wellington with troops to enable him to proceed against the French army with sufficient effect, and stated that with an addition of 10,000 men Lord Wellington wd. have forced the French to abandon Spain. When the English papers reached Lord Wellington He read His Brother's eloquent speech thus charging the Ministry with neglect, the remark His Lordship made upon it was " How foolishly people will talk of matters with which they are not acquainted, Had an addition of 10,000 men been made to my army they must have been starved, circumstanced as I was I could not have found provision for them."

The Public Disappointed

June 7.—The Emperor of Russia, and the King of Prussia being this day expected Lawrence & Robert Smirke sat more than 2 Hours on the Barouche Box of a carriage. The streets were full of people, & Carriages, & the windows of Houses were crowded with persons eager to see the procession.

All were disappointed. At past 5 oClock it was circulated among the people that the Emperor & King had been in London more than two Hours, they having left the great road from Greenwich & passed through Peckham gap and over Battersea Bridge to Piccadilly where the Emperor stopped at the Pulteney Hotel & was received by His Sister the Duchess of Oldenburgh.—Much disatisfaction was expressed at this disappointment which was ascribed to the Prince Regent, in return for having been *hissed* when going to the Queen's Court on Thursday the 2nd. inst.—

Emperor of Russia and General Blucher

I walked to Pallmall between 3 & 4 oClock & met J. Steers [accountant] who told me He had seen the Emperor of Russia who soon after His

arrival at the Pulteney Hotel on being *huzza'd* by the People came forward with the Duchess of Oldenburgh to the window and bowed to the People.

We dined witht. Company.—A servant came to us while at dinner, and told us that two carriages arrived in London, the first having in it two young men, sons of the King of Prussia & the second General Blucher. The People cheered them and many shook hands with the young Princes who appeared highly delighted; and the Horses were taken from *Blucher's carriage* & He was drawn through the Horse guards by the People. He stood up and with His head uncovered expressed by His motions His acknowledgments.—

June 8.—I was at home employed on my drawings for Cadell & Davis (arranging the sets for Cumberland, Derbyshire, & Devonshire) till past three oClock, I then walked to Piccadilly & found that street crowded with people, & Horses and carriages, waiting to see the Emperor of Russia and the Duchess of Oldenburgh go to Carlton House to dine with the Prince Regent. The Prince Regent's state chariot and several other of His Royal carriages were waiting to convey the Royal Personages. A guard of British Cavalry was also drawn up opposite the door of the Pulteney Hotel.

Dick [Farington's nephew] on His way from the House of Lords had seen the Emperor of Russia and the Duchess of Oldenburgh. Before His leaving the Pulteney Hotel the Emperor came to the Balcony of the Hotel and for three minutes stood and bowed to the People who hailed Him with loud *Huzzas*. He then proceeded to Carlton House with the Duchess of Oldenburgh in the Prince Regent's state Chariot & was hailed by the people as He went along and He bowed repeatedly in acknowledgment of their attention.

CHAPTER LXXIX

1814

Portraits of Generals Blucher and Platoff

June 9.—Lawrence I called on before breakfast. He shewed me a note recd. by Him from Sir Charles Stewart informing Him that the Prince Regent desired to have two whole length Portraits of General Blucher & Genl. Platoff & that He (Sir Charles) shd. bring Genl. Blucher to Lawrence to sit for His portrait at 12 oClock on Friday the 10th. inst.—The Prince Regent had also spoken to Sir Charles abt. the proposed large picture of the Emperor of Russia, the King of Prussia & the Prince Regent &c.—Lawrence said to me " As I have not been accustomed to compositions of this kind I can do no more in the first instance than paint the portraits of those who will sit to me & must afterwards combine them."

Appearance of the People

In the evening about ten oClock we passed through many streets, saw the illuminations at the India House,—The Excise Office,—The Bank, Somerset Place, & Drury Lane & Covent Garden Theatres.—The illuminations (on account of the *Peace*) were very splendid, but I was most struck with the *appearance of the people.* The streets were crowded in many parts to excess, but there was not the least disorder,—a child might have gone on without injury, and all the masses of people were well or decently clad, so as to exhibit an immense population moving under a general feeling of order and mutual consideration of respect so far as to avoid subjecting each other to unnecessary pressure & inconvenience.—

The Emperor and the King

June 25.—Robert Smirke I called on.—Being one of the St. Pancrass Corps at the Review in Hyde Park on Monday last He saw the Emperor of Russia, and the King of Prussia distinctly & thought the countenance of the King much superior in character to that of the Emperor. The latter had a good humoured cheerful look, but He thought there was something

Cattish in his face which caused him to think of the Emperor Peter, His Father.—

The King of Prussia had a grave and sensible expression that indicated understanding; but the Emperor appeared to be a man who if He did great things it must have been at the instigation of others.—He added "Lawrence, while at the Opera studying the Emperor's countenance thought He saw a great deal in it, but Lawrence has strong prejudices when He takes up a notion." He then sd. that He had been told by a gentleman who was at *Blenheim* when the Emperor & the King were there, that on their descending the steps in the front of the Palace from whence there is a magnificent prospect of the Park and woods, the King stopped to contemplate and expressed His admiration of the scene, but the Emperor walked on without noticing it in the least.—

Extraordinary Phenomenon

Dr. Hayes I met and He took me to Carpue's the Surgeon, in Dean St. where I saw the Phenomenon mentioned by Lysons, part of a female form taken from the left side of a youth of 16, a native of Sherborne in Dorsetshire. A young man, a Surgeon of that town was there and exposed and explained this Phenomenon. Several parts of the form were distinctly shaped, and the Sex clearly exhibited. He said the youth never had a day's illness till He was Seven years old & then only a complaint which was considered "The worms" of which He soon became well, & continued in health till about two years ago when again He had some complaint, but nothing of importance till a few weeks before His death when He (the Surgeon) was called in, & the disorder was thought to be the *Spleen*, and there were other conjectures.

The youth died of an Hemmorage which took place abt. the part where the Phenomenon was lodged.—Several gentlemen were present at Mr. Carpue's while He gave this explanation, & among them Sir Walter Farquhar M.D.—Mr. Carpue told me that the Surgeon meant to publish the case & to illustrate it by three plates: He added that two cases of a similar nature had happened in France and that an account of those cases wd. accompany this publication.—

The Duchess and Princess Charlotte

Mrs. Peel I called on at Her lodgings in St. James's St. No 7.—She told me Mr. Peel was at Brighton where it was hoped He wd. derive benefit from change of air, He being in a state much disposed to universal torpor. She spoke of what she & Her daugr. had seen, incessantly engaged, during the fortnight they had been in town; of the greatness of the expense &c.—she had heard from what she called good authority that the Duchess of Oldenburgh had prejudiced the mind of Princess Charlotte against marrying

the Prince of Orange, having in view to marry Her to a Russian Prince; also that there had been coolness between the Prince Regent & the Emperor of Russia caused by the Emperor while walking arm in arm with the Regent on seeing Lord Grey He quitted the Prince and went up to His Lordship. —Such are the reports in circulation.—She said the Prince Regent had behaved very ill respecting His wife.—I dined alone.

The Making of a Rogue

June 29.—After breakfast I called on Mr. Jortin. On my looking at a Print of His Grandfather the eminent Revd. Dr. Jortin who died in 1770 aged 72 He said "My grandfather was much acquainted with Sir Edward Walpole, father to the Duchess of Gloucester, and being poor, He consulted Sir Edward as to how He should bring up His son, adding He has not talents for the Church. 'Make [him] a Lawyer,' sd. Sir Edward. 'That,' replied Dr. Jortin, 'would be to make Him a Rogue.' 'Let him be put to the Law and I will give Him a place in the Exchequer that will be a provision for him,' which Sir Edward did, and enabled my Father to make a fortune. He had however, some practise in the Law and bore an excellent character in that profession."—

Coke of Norfolk

Philip Hamond called.—He spoke of Mr. [Thomas William] Coke of Norfolk [see previous volumes] who notwithstanding His having taken what was called the popular side in politics with C. Fox on all questions respecting the power of government over the people is himself thoroughly an aristocrat, wishing to dominate over the minds of others and to be looked to as a ruling chief.—Mr. Samuel Whitbread [brewer and politician] also bears the character of being a very bad landlord.—

He spoke of Lord Cholmondeley & said He understood Houghton Hall wd. be sold by His Lordship if a Purchaser shd. come forward. His Lordship sd. He is rich, and a great Oeconomist in the management of His House. He is noted for giving bad dinners. A gentleman being engaged to dine with him happened to say to Roger Wilbraham, "I am not quite well & mean to take some Physick." "Postpone it, replied Wilbraham, till after you have dined with Lord Cholmondely for then you will find it necessary to take Physick." It was reported that at Houghton His Lordship paid His Cook a fixed sum per Head for those who dined with Him.—

A Wafer in His Mouth

William Westall having a complaint in one of His eyes John Taylor [oculist and journalist] came and relieved Him by applying the Lancet. Taylor spoke of the late Edward Jerningham, Author of many poetical

pieces, and Brother of the late Sir William Jerningham. Taylor said that Jerningham never had an income of more than £400 and before His death it was lessened below that sum, but He had kept the best company, & at one period was much with the Prince of Wales. He said Jerningham early in life renounced the errors of Popery, but was apprehensive that at His death Roman Catholick Priests shd. they through their communication with His family (all Roman Catholicks) approach Him report that He died with as He termed it—" a wafer in His mouth."

On this account on the Friday before He died, which happened on a Monday, He desired to see Taylor and He then told Him His apprehension, & requested Him to report that He died in the Protestant faith, & that according to it He had recd. the Sacrament on the preceding Wednesday. —He was abt. 72 years old when He died after long enjoying a good state of health, but latterly His constitution gave way, and the failure of it was expressed in a dropsical tendency.—

Buonaparte and Meternich

June 30.—I called on Lawrence & we talked of the Proposal at the meeting of the Common Council in the City to have a Portrait of the Duke of Wellington, and I recommended to him to go to Lord Stewart to request Him to apply to the Duke of Wellington to sit to Him, which He did when I left Him.—He told me that Count Meternich, the Austrian Minister, who had just sat to him previous to His return to Vienna, told Him that it was true that on His last visit to Buonaparte previous to the *Austrians joining the Allies*, He remained with Him nine Hours, endeavouring to induce Him to agree to reasonable terms on which a Peace might be founded, while Buonaparte on the contrary laboured to bring Meternich into His views.—

Lord Aberdeen's Manners

I had company at dinner.—Lord Aberdeen was spoken of not in a manner to afford satisfaction to those who had long known or those who had taken pains to obtain His election at the Antiquary Society.—It was observed that a cold, arrogant Pride is always disgusting and especially in a young man. In speaking to Count Mierveldt of Lord Castlereagh He described Him to be a man of business but as a Parliamentary Orator a wretched speaker.—Lysons remarked that since His return from Paris Lord Aberdeen had taken no notice of the Antiquary Society or acknowledged a card which He had left at His Lordship's House.—It seemed that He had been reported beyond His bearing, and had become inflated by being placed in a high political situation in which however, He appeared at least on one occasion in intercourse with an agent of Buonaparte's not to have had Diplomatic caution in the use of words.—

CHAPTER LXXX

1814

A Well-known Author's Habits

July 1.—William Westall spoke of Payne Knight who, He sd., now when in the Country at Downton near Ludlow resides in a small House situated on the edge of His grounds, having given up the mansion, Downton Castle, to His Brother & His family. His pleasure is to dine with His Brother as often as He chooses, and when alone or having a friend like Westall only with him, He dines & takes whatever wine He drinks at dinner, with the exception of one glass after dinner.

Soon after dinner He makes coffee and drinks it very strong, and then it is His delight to walk about His grounds carrying a pruning knife with Him to cut off light branches of trees &c. that interfere with His view.—He continues His walk till tea time, and takes little or no supper, or rather nothing but fruit.—

King of Prussia's Sincere Attachment

July 2.—I called on Lawrence. He told me that a dinner given on Wednesday or Thursday last by Wellesley Pole Long to His Uncle the Duke of Wellington at Wanstead House, Lord Stewart desired the Duke to sit to Lawrence for a whole length portrait for Him (Lord Stewart) to which He agreed.—Lawrence mentioned a circumstance which shewed the strong attachment of the King of Prussia to His deceased Queen.

Previous to White's Ball at Burlington House, His Majesty was informed that a young Lady whom He had much noticed, was very desirous to obtain a ticket of admission but had not been able to procure one. He immediately made it a particular request to the Prince Regent that she and Her Aunt shd. have tickets sent them which was accordingly done. On this circumstance being mentioned when a person acquainted with the Court of Prussia was present, He said, "I can at once account for His Majesty's attention to this young Lady; she is remarkably like His late Queen".—

Lawrence further said He had been informed, that the apartment in which the Queen usually sat was by His Majesty's order left in exactly

the same state in which it was when she died, even so far that a letter which she had begun to write but had not finished lay upon a table as she left it.—To this apartment He sometimes retires and remains absorbed in reflection.—This instance shews that sincere attachment may exist in the highest rank of life.

July 3.—I went to St. James's Chapel; and on my way home at His desire called upon Cockburn at No. 66 Warren St. He told me the pictures (Desenfans Collection) were removing to Dulwich College and in a few weeks might be seen by Members of the Royal Academy. He sd. He had been appointed to have the care of the pictures, & was to reside in apartments at the College.—

Edmund Kean's Chance

J. Halls I met. He desired me to go to His House to see a whole length Portrait of Kean, the Tragedian, which He had painted. He told me that Kean was acting at Exeter, and in distressed circumstances, when Dr. Drury, the late Master of Harrow School who now resides in Devonshire abt. 10 miles from Exeter, happened to go to the Play House in that Town. He was so much impressed with the excellence of Kean's acting that after having again seen him He wrote to Mr. Whitbread and to Mr. Pascoe Grenfell, describing His Theatrical powers as being very extraordinary. Mr. Arnold, the manager of Drury Lane Theatre was immediately sent to Exeter and having seen Kean perform He at once engaged Him for Drury Lane Theatre for Three years.

Saves Drury Lane Theatre

His popularity in London was instantaneous, and most fortunately so for the Proprietors of that Theatre which was fast sinking to Bankruptcy, the receipts of the House falling short of the expences to the amount of £500 pr. week.—Halls described Kean to be abt. 26 years old, naturally of a grave disposition, and not accustomed to talk much. I asked Him whether Kean's powers were confined to Tragedy. He replied that Kean, at present, rather encourages that opinion, but added "I know that He has powers for Comedy".—I do not doubt, said Halls, but that when His engagement at Dublin shall have been completed He will clear £4000 this year, a vast sum for one who before was almost starving.—

The Emperor's Opinion of England

July 4.—[Lord Lonsdale] spoke of the Emperor of Russia as having been much gratified with what He saw in this country. The Emperor made a remark to the following effect. "That the high state to which England had advanced was not solely owing to the excellence of Her

constitution and the perfection of Her laws, but also to something inherent in the people. A temper of mind, a soberness of thought, reflecting habits, such as no other people have, co-operated with, and made practicable in perfection all Her institutions."—Lord Lonsdale was of opinion that the remark was well founded, for, sd. He, Though the People are sometimes carried away by a violent impulse of feeling to a length not reasonable, it is not long before the Publick mind is again restored to reflection, so that dangerous consequences are seldom to be apprehended.

The Prince's Apprehension

July 6.—Mr. West informed me that it having been determined to close the Royal Academy Exhibition on Saturday July 9th.—He had written to General Turner requesting to know whether it wd. be the pleasure of the Prince Regent to see the Exhibition; to which Genl. Turner replied that His Royal Highness wd. decline it this year.—West remarked that it might be owing to His apprehension of rudeness in the mob on acct. of the Princess of Wales.—

Wellington Came on Horseback

July 6.—I called on Lawrence soon after 9 oClock. At Ten the Duke of Wellington came to sit for His portrait, a whole length for the Prince Regent. He came on Horseback attended by an Old Groom, and [dressed] in the plainest manner; wearing a Blue Coat & a round Hat.—Nobody was apprized of His coming, and the few people who were passing had no knowledge of His being the Duke of Wellington.—

CHAPTER LXXXI

1814

The Thanksgiving Day

July 7.—At 7 I called on Lawrence, the weather very fine. We went together to St. Paul's. Our Tickets were for the North gallery, but He found Mr. Marsh, Deputy to the Lord Chamberlain, there, who gave us a pass into a Box the nearest to the Choir, & the best situated for seeing the procession and into the Choir also.—When we arrived at the Cathedral the Door was not opened, and a great number of persons were collected waiting for admittance. Near me stood Lady Cardigan & several other Ladies. At ¼ past 8 the door was opened and we were admitted with a little pressing one by one. In the Box to which Mr. Marsh introduced us we found Sir George Beaumont and Dance and no other person and we took our seats in the front row next to them.

Blucher and Wellington Arrive

Abt. a quarter before 10 the Speaker of the House of Commons and many members arrived, also Marshal Blucher, The scene was very fine and highly interesting. Sir George sd. He wd. not for 100 guineas have given up the pleasure he felt from so splendid a spectacle.

At a ¼ past Eleven the Prince Regent arrived. On His right hand the Duke of Wellington carried the Sword of State, and on His left was the Duke of Montrose, Master of the Horse. All the Peers were in Robes. The Lord Chancellor Eldon with His train borne preceded the Regent, also the Dukes of Gloucester, Cambridge, Sussex, Kent, & York. There were no Ladies in the procession.—Divine service began abt. 20 minutes past eleven and lasted till a quarter past two. The Bishop of Chichester preached: His Sermon lasted abt. 35 minutes. Members of the House of Commons were mostly full dressed.

After the service was over and the Procession had left the Church, I walked into the Choir with Sir Geo. Beaumont & Dance, and we viewed the whole of the arrangements—The gold or gilt service of Plate on the Communion Table was very splendid; and the whole scene magnificent.—

PRINCESS CHARLOTTE, ONLY DAUGHTER OF GEORGE IV
By Sir Thomas Lawrence

To face p. 264

The Communion service was read by the Bishop of Lincoln, Dean of St. Paul's, and Dr. Hughes, Dr. Weston, and the Hon: & Revd. Wellesley Pole, Canons of St. Pauls.—

A Husband for Princess Charlotte

Dr. Thomas Hughes [see previous volumes] I called on at His Canonry House in Amen Corner, & sat with him sometime.—He spoke of the Bishop of Salisbury and sd. He looked ill, a broken look; His mind had been uneasy about the Princess Charlotte, on account of Her extraordinary conduct to the Prince (Hereditary) of Orange.

She suddenly broke off the intended marriage with him though the proposal had been accepted with Her full consent. Sometime since sd. Dr. Hughes, I called on the Princess Augusta, and she desired me to sit down and I remained with Her sometime. She told me that the Prince Regent having in His mind that it was proper to think of marrying the Princess Charlotte He to prepare Her for it did in October last in a manner half in Joke & half in earnest, say to Her, " Charlotte we must begin to think of looking out for a Husband for you, but I will never press any one upon you without yr. full will & consent. To be sure sd. He, the number of persons we can look to is limited."

The Competition

All this passed off very well. When the Hereditary Prince of Orange returned from Spain He being one day at dinner with the Regent, several of the Royal Family being present, the subject of marrying the Princess Charlotte was brought forward by the Regent, who sd. " We must look out for a Husband for Charlotte," and turning to the Prince of Orange, sd. " And you will be considered one of the number of those who will be thought of."—To which the Prince replied " He should have reason to be proud if admitted into such a competition."—

From this time the matter was taken up seriously & the Regent made parties to afford opportunity for the Prince of Orange & the Princess Charlotte to become better acquainted with each other,—and after sometime the Regent requested Her to say how she stood disposed to Him. Her answer being favorable preparations were made to carry the proposed marriage into effect, and all seemed to be settled, when suddenly she declared Her dissent.

Our Jilt

The Regent was extremely mortified at Her conduct, as were all those who were in situations abt. Her. Her Tutor speaking of what she had done called Her " Our Jilt ".—No cause for this change in Her sentiments had been made known to Dr. Hughes, all He knew beyond what He stated

was from newspapers. I asked Him what opinion was entertained respecting Her natural powers. He sd. the Bishop of Salisbury spoke favourably of Her in this respect as posessing quickness of apprehension and ability; but sd. Dr. Hughes I place more reliance on what was told me by the late Revd. Mr. Guiffardiere, the Queen's Reader.

Her Natural Powers

He said she had quickness of apprehension but no disposition to application to obtain information, and wd. never be a superior woman from the want of it.—I mentioned the reports of Her having broke off the match on acct. of the proceedings of the Regent & the Queen preventing Her Mother, the Princess of Wales, from appearing at the Queen's Court. Dr. Hughes sd. He did not believe that had any effect upon Her, as she was thought to have very little regard for Her mother.—

CHAPTER LXXXII

1814

A Clear-Headed Bishop

We talked of the Bishop of Lincoln (Dean of St. Pauls, Dr. Prettyman), Dr. Hughes said "He is a clear-headed man, a man of business, and I have remarked has the power of shifting his attention from one subject to another of a very different kind witht. requiring time to bring His mind to bear upon it. A proof of a cool and strong head. He is never idle, and I have seen him after He has been engaged in business, when left to himself for a little time, take up a Book and become deeply intent upon the subject of it, though very different from that which had for some time occupied His thoughts.

Not Pious but a Man of Principle

Farther He sd. "I do not consider the Bishop to be what is called a pious man, but He is a man of principle. In writing and publishing on Religious topics He appears to me to do it because it becomes him in His situation to do what He can to maintain those doctrines which He professes to support." He added, "The Bishop stands very well with the Regent who much wished to have him made Archbishop of Canterbury when Dr. Sutton was promoted to that See, but the King sd. He could not grant it having promised it to Dr. Sutton.—This the Bishop told Dr. Hughes.—The Bishoprick of London was offered to him and much pressed upon him by the Regent, but He declined it not on acct. of the business attached to the situation, but because He had then a negotiation on foot for renewing some very valuable leases under the See of Lincoln which hung by a single life, Lady Oglander. This matter He completed by purchasing the remainder of Her life interest for which He paid her £10,000 and He then granted new leases thereby profiting to a very large amount, it was said to the amount of 80 or £100,000.

I congratulated Dr. Hughes on the Ode which His son [John father of the author of *Tom Brown's Schooldays*] had written which was recited at Oxford in the Theatre when the Emperor of Russia & the King of Prussia were there. He said it was very well written and in a very short time.—

Lysons I called on.—Lysons said He had just been told that the Prince Regent was very much hissed when He passed opposite to the Fleet market, by a number of Butchers and such like who were assembled there. They called out, " Where is your wife " &c. &c.—

An Eminent Preacher

July 8.—Dr. Andrews, Dean of Canterbury, & Rector of St. James's was spoken of, and His celebrity as a Preacher. Mr. Charles Long said His Delivery was not good, but there was an earnest sincerity in His manner which had a great effect on His auditors.—Mr. Long added, that after having heard a Sermon from Him, [and] on afterwards considering it He thought there was not much in it, and this had been the case at different times. Dr. Andrews, He sd, had published one Sermon and it was but an indifferent discourse.—Mr. Steele (a master in Chancery) spoke of having been at Westminster School with Dr. Andrews, and at that early age He was remarkable for the propriety of His conduct, never giving into anything that was irregular.

Lady Lonsdale showed me a circular letter from Lady Spencer, proposing a subscription by Ladies to defray the expense of erecting a monument to the Duke of Wellington, to be formed of the cannon taken by the Duke in various engagements and moulded or cast into the form of one of the Horses on Monte Cavallo at Rome. Lady Spencer proposed that a deputation of Ladies shd. wait upon the Duchess of York at ½ past 4 oClock tomorrow to commence the proposed plan. [The result was the foolish-looking figure of Achilles in Hyde Park.]—

The Queen and the Princess of Wales

Mr. Long sd. it was to be regretted that the letter from the Queen to the Princess of Wales forbidding Her coming to Court was ever written. The Prince Regent might easily have prevented their interviews from being offensive to him.—The Princess wd. have accepted £50,000 pr. annum if not prevented by Her Councellors; indeed she had expressed Her acknowledgments for it. She then wrote for £35,000 pr. annum that being thought sufficient by Messrs Whitbread & Tierney. Future discussions will not be prevented by what has been done.—Lady Mary Lowther sd. the Prince Regent was always graceful. In His action peculiarly so.—

July 14.—Nollekens before breakfast I called on—saw busts of Lady Folkes & Ld. Erskine—who is 65.—Prices £150 gs. marble bust with shoulders—100 gs. witht. shoulders—75 gs. plaister only—with shoulders—50 gs. witht.—

A Picture Cleaner's Charges

July 15.—Mr. Hanbury of Kelmarsh in Northamptonshire, M.P. for Northampton, I called on at His Mother's House No. 19 Portman square

& found Him at breakfast. We had conversation about His pictures brought from His House, Shobdon Court, in Herefordshire, to Kelmarsh, abt. 150 in number, I having recommended *Simpson* as a proper person to clean them. He shewed me an estimate of the value of the pictures which was made by Simpson at Shobdon court, amounting to upwards of £5000. —He said Simpson's charge when employed to clean pictures was two guineas pr. day, and an extra charge for pictures of great value. For repairing a Landscape by Claude He charged 25 guineas.—Mr. Hanbury supposed He wd. take His son with Him to Kelmarsh, & that He also would charge for Himself 2 guineas pr. day. Simpson calculated that it might take Him 2 months to clean all the pictures.—Mr. Hanbury having mentioned to a friend that He had engaged *Simpson* to clean His pictures, the reply was " Beware of *Simpson,* for He has made sad work with the pictures at the Queen's Palace, having scrubbed them almost to destroy them." I asked Him whether He mentioned this to Simpson, to which He replied " No ! but I asked Him whether He had not been employed to clean pictures at the Queen's Palace, & He replied in the affirmative ".— I sd. " I wish you had mentioned what you had been told to Simpson ".— He sd. the reports unfavourable to Simpson might arise from jealousy which He supposed existed in all trades.—

Louis XVIII's Behaviour

July 18.—Edward Bird, of Bristol called. He spoke of His excursion to Calais having gone over from Dover in the yatch which carried Louis 18th & the Duchess D'Angouleme. He painted small portraits of them both at Calais for the purpose of painting a picture representing them on board the yatch with their Suite, & the English [representatives] who accompanied them. He still thought it wd. be necessary for Him to go to Paris to make portraits of more of those who accompanied them.—The Duchess D'Angouleme was extremely affected when she approached the Harbour of Calais. Louis 18th. conducted himself with great fortitude, and appeared to be a man posessed of a strong mind.—

He said He shd. paint two pictures of this subject, as He had a commission to paint one for the Earl of Bridgewater, and the Prince Regent desired to have the refusal of another.—

July 20.—I called on Lawrence. A Cossack was standing to Him for Him to paint part of the dress of Marshal Platoff.—

July 21.—I called on Landseer & returned to Him some prints. He shewed me some sketches of Animals by His Son, [afterwards Sir Edwin Landseer] a Boy under 12 years of age, remarkably well done for one of His years.—

CHAPTER LXXXIII

1814

A Royal Fête

July 22.—Lawrence I drank [tea] with, He gave me an account of the Fete at Carlton House.—The Card of invitation was [as] follows.—

The Lord Chamberlain is commanded by
THE PRINCE REGENT
to invite Mr. T. Lawrence
to a Dress Party on Thursday evening the
21st. of July at ten oClock to
have the Honor of meeting
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

A Ball.

On the Company invited arriving they were received in the entrance Hall and from thence proceeded not into the principal apartments of the Palace which are on that floor, but descended the double flight of steps into the lower apartments and through them into a very large circular room, a temporary building erected in the garden of the Palace, but attached to the lower apartments. The Diameter of this room 136 feet. In the center of it slight Pillars ornamented forming a circle in which sat a Band of Musick; and round it on the outside there were seats for the company, and also in circular recesses in the inside of the outer wall of the room.

A Splendid Scene

When Lawrence arrived which was abt. three quarters before 12 oClock He found abt. 14 couples dancing, among whom were some of the Princesses. The rest of the company were Promenading or in conversation. It was a very splendid scene. At 3 oClock they sat down to supper, which was served hot. He sat next to Mr. Vansittart, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and in conversation with Him remarked the variety and accuracy of His knowledge. Before Supper the Queen with the Princesses sat on a Sopha in the circular apartment which was sd. to be larger than the late public building called *Ranelagh*.

The Duke of Wellington was there dressed in a Field Marshals uniform, with all His Orders, and made a striking figure. He is 5 feet 10 Inches high.—Much attention was paid to Him wherever He moved.—The Duchess of Wellington walked with Lord & Lady Liverpool. Lawrence was much with Mrs. Boucheret* and Her daughters, and had occasionally conversation with many of the first characters present, with the Duke of Wellington,—Marquiss Wellesley,—Lord Liverpool &c. &c. and the Duchess of York seeing Him advanced to speak to Him. The Cards of invitation were not demanded at the door it being of course held that no one would presume to come who had not an invitation. Lawrence came away a little before 5 oClock, and at that Hour the Queen remained there.

A Great Opportunity

Lawrence told me that yesterday Lord Stewart called upon Him and spoke of the fine opportunity which wd. be afforded Him to paint [the] Portraits of the Emperors of Austria and Russia if He would go to Vienna at the time fixed for the Congress to be held there, & said "I can give you an apartment to paint in in my House," and turning to Mrs. Wellesley Pole who was present said, "I shall also then have an agreeable companion with me on my journey," He being appointed Ambassador to Vienna.—Robert Smirke now came in, & on being told what Lord Stewart had proposed united with me in urging Lawrence to accept that offer, so calculated to spread His fame throughout Europe.—

A Wise Decision

July 23.—I called on Lawrence before breakfast, and He came to a resolution to go to *Vienna* & sd. He wd. inform Lord Stewart that He wd. accept His offer, but that it wd. be proper for Him to go as from the Prince Regent.—Having been at the Fete on Thursday even'g He determined to go to the Regent's Levee on Thursday the 28th. inst.—He told me Lord Stewart had requested the Prince Regent to sit to Him for a whole length Portrait in lieu of that which He should be entitled to as Ambassador to Vienna.—

Col^{l}. McMahon had called on Lawrence and represented the propriety of the Prince Regent having the portrait of the Duke of Wellington which He had begun, and which was claimed by Lord Stewart, but Lawrence got over this difficulty by observing to Him that this portrait was in the plain dress which the Duke wore when on service, but that in

* The eldest daughter of Mrs Crockatt who became the wife of J. J. Angerstein, merchant and art collector. Mrs. Boucheret's husband, Ayscough Boucheret, was killed in a carriage accident at Willingham Hill, Lincolnshire, in 1814. See Vol. III., pp. 23 and 258.

a picture to be placed among pictures of Generals and Admirals all in Uniform it wd. be proper to paint Him in His uniform as *Field Marshal*, to which Col[l]. McMahon agreed.—

A Lover of Ease

Lawrence sd. "I have certainly hesitated to accept Lord Stewart's offer as I know I should want much of those conveniences & that ease which I have in my own House. The truth [is] a desire to excel in my profession and love of ease are everything to me. That line of the Poet which says in substance 'Faithful to friends and lover of His ease', is justly applicable to me."

Constable's Pictures Unfinished

Constable called upon me.—We talked abt. filling the vacancies of Associates in November next. I told him the objection made to His pictures was their being unfinished; that Thomson gave him great credit for the taste of His design in His larger picture last exhibited, & for the indication shewn in the colouring, but He had not carried His finishing far enough.—I recommended to Him to look at some of the pictures of *Claude* before He returns to His country studies, and to attend to the admirable manner in which all the parts of His pictures are completed.—He thanked me much for the conversation we had, from which He sd. He shd. derive benefit.—

An Excellent Dinner

Mr. West I dined with. I did not see Mrs. West who Mr. West informed me was now reduced to a state of imbecility of almost the last degree, being incapable of communication, but happily not suffering pain.

Before dinner we sat in His painting room and before us was His new picture of "Christ Healing the Sick" intended for America, (Philadelphia). The dinner was excellent, and sufficient for ten or a dozen persons. After Soup, Salmon, Boiled Fowls, stewed Beef, tongue & a fine Hanch of Venison was placed on the table & a boiled leg of lamb. We had much conversation.

Hospitality of the Viennese

Thomson spoke of *Vienna* where He resided nine months. He said it was the most agreeable town He ever lived in, both from situation & for Society. He spoke of the hospitality as being unbounded. Being once introduced you never need be alone. I had a letter of introduction from Prince Reuss at Venice to Prince Lichtenstein, and I found at Vienna all I wished for. But the Society most agreeable was that of the upper part

of the middle the private gentleman's families. There I enjoyed all that cd. be agreeable.—

Disappointed with French Art

Haydon & Wilkie being returned from Paris were spoken of. Wilkie expressed much satisfaction on finding that the Painters of England far excelled those of France. "They can all draw outlines, sd. He, but know not how to fill them up." His attention to the Collection in the Great Picture Gallery did not appear to have been general; He seemed to have but little noticed the works of the *Roman School*, His mind seemed to have been chiefly employed in contemplating the pictures of Correggio, and of Rubens.—He spoke of the dirty state in which the Publick Academy is kept and of the shabby appearance of the Students.

Haydon expressed disappointment at not finding works by the great Masters on a larger scale—this expectation of His not being fulfilled excited some amusement.—

We had Coffee & Tea & came away at Half past Eleven oClock. It was mentioned that on Thursday evening last the Queen was outrageously hissed while on Her passage in Her Chair from the Queen's Palace to Carlton House.—

The Temple of Peace

July 28.—At 5 oClock I walked with H. Hamond to the Green Park and by means of one of the workmen saw the construction of the Temple erected to *Peace* which is to be illuminated on the day of the Fete, and works which were preparing under the direction of General Sir Willm. Congreve. The contrivance of it was such as to admit of the whole of it being turned round the lower part by wheels turning on a circle of Iron plate; and the upper part by wheels working on an inner circle.—About 50 men were required to turn it when the experiment was made yesterday. The Temple is 100 feet diameter & 130 feet high. Transparent Paintings alluding to Victory and Peace were to be placed in the different fronts of the Temple.—From hence we walked down the Mall & saw the new Chinese Bridge & Pagoda erected over the Canal in St. James's Park.

CHAPTER LXXXIV

1814

Traducing the Prince Regent

August 1.—A grey morning. Before breakfast I walked to Hyde Park with H. Hamond to see the Ships on the Canal & the Booths &c. Soon after our return a heavy shower fell which was succeeded by a most beautiful day,—the air fresh and delightful. I counted 20 ships on the Canal & thought they made a pretty appearance; and by no means justified the sour, cavilling remarks profusely made in the opposition newspapers; particularly those which devote their pages to traducing the Prince Regent viz: *Morning Chronicle, Examiner, Champion* &c.—

A Great Display in St. James's Park

Bob [Farington's brother] called and I walked with him to St. James's Park which we entered through Storey gate, The day was delightfully fine, and the company numerous, but not the least crowded. Many Booths & tents were erected & in one of the Booths we dined.—Everybody seemed gratified with the scene.—Abt. 9 oClock some fireworks were let off & I endeavoured to find a good situation for seeing the grand display. I therefore passed through Storey's gate and went round by the Horseguards along the Parade and to the Mall, and took a station in the line *open to the Public* opposite to the Temple of Concord, and saw the whole display in all its effect.

General Satisfaction

The Fire works were beautiful, & the People appeared to be highly gratified. They commenced abt. 10 oClock & the *Temple of Concord* after having been first exhibited as the *Castle of Discord* with all its Horrors of fire and destruction, was presented forming a beautiful structure on the lines composed of lighted lamps, and large transparent Paintings representing subjects exhibiting the devastations of war and the evils of Despotism & Tyranny.—At ¼ past 12 oClock I left the Park and walked home among numbers [of people] who like myself had their curiosity gratified. Upon this occasion the Public curiosity appeared to be indulged to the

utmost degree, & I saw or heard nothing but what shewed general satisfaction; but the last display was too long protracted.—

Haydon's Criticism

August 2.—After breakfast I called on Sir G. Beaumont and found Haydon with Him,—who said He had been much pleased at Paris and somewhat disappointed, having found the Transfiguration by Raphael much painted upon. The works of Correggio & of Rubens pleased Him most, the latter a wonderful exhibition of pictorial power. A Holy family by the former most admirable; Heads by Titian very fine.—

August 20.—Shooters Hill Tavern (the Bull Browning) I went to at two oClock in a Coach with Messrs. Benjamin West & Robt. Smirke & Lawrence.—Mr. West having given us a dinner on the 20th. of August last, we now gave Him a dinner;—it being the anniversary—the 51st year from his arrival in England.—

Wellington and Buonaparte

Lawrence related conversation which He had with the Duke of Wellington respecting Buonaparte. The Duke said "The fault of Buonaparte was the substituting the *false for the true*; For the sake of an imposing effect He frequently gave up *security*. He (though then at a great distance) gave the Plan upon which the French Army was to act, and He directed that Vittoria should be defended by the French army being placed before the town, by which it was exposed to attack and defeat, had he, said the Duke. placed His army *behind the town*, it might have been secure.—By His proceeding upon this false principle of confounding by ostentatious show He finally ruined himself. It was His system in everything."

I asked Lawrence what He himself thought wd. have been the consequence of the Duke of Wellington being opposed as a Commander to to Buonaparte. He replied that He had no doubt of the result of such a contest. The Duke would have opposed *Wisdom* to *Cunning*, & the effect wd. have been Victory.

The King and the Academy

August 21.—He sd. He had heard it asserted by a member of the Academy that the King never actually gave anything to the Royal Academy. It was allowed that He did at an early period of the Institution advance abt. £5000 for the support of it, but that afterwards the money was returned to Him. I told Him this was an unfounded statement, the money never having been returned to His Majesty, and on the contrary that at a subsequent period in 1795 His Majesty wd. have given further assistance had there been occasion for it, which owing to a false representation His Majesty believed to be the case.—P. Hoare expressed himself to be much pleased with this explanation.—

Lord Oxford and King Murat

J. Aytoun [artist] I met in my walk before dinner. He told me Lord Oxford was come from *Naples* & had called on William Westall; that His Lordship had been very kindly treated by *King Murat* who had assigned to Him an elegant mansion in that City; & that His Lordship's mission to England was to obtain from the English government a promise to support *Murat* as *King of Naples*.—He sd. Lord Oxford had been to *Brighton* to speak to the Prince Regent on the subject. I observed to J. Aytoun that *Murat* had shewn a strange notion of men & Politics in fixing upon Lord Oxford for such a mission.—

August 31.—I called on Lawrence before breakfast and told Him I was going to Dulwich College this day to see the Desenfans College of Pictures now arranged in the building erected from Soane's design.—

Dulwich College I went to after breakfast and got there at half past 12 oClock.—I found Cockburn [the Keeper] there and with Him saw the picture gallery and the Mausoleum (a chapel) erected to the memory of Mr. & Mrs. Desenfans & Sir F. Bourgeois. Cockburn told me the Collection consisted of 373 pictures. I remarked that there was a want of light in the Gallery, and that the Colour of the ground of the walls was heavy and unfavourable for the pictures, something like burnt Oker but heavier. Soane designed the building, and West recommended the Colour of the *ground*.—I told Cockburn the small pictures could not be seen but imperfectly.—

Old College at Dulwich

I went into several of the apartments of the Old College with Cockburn. He told me the Society consists of a Master, a Warden, (Head Officer or guardian) a Schoolmaster, and two other Fellows.—Whoever is elected Master of the College must be of the name of *Allen*; but this is limited to the *Master* only.—It is made a condition by the Will of Mr. Allen the Founder of the College, that no married person shall be Master, Warden, or a Fellow of this Society.—Six men and Six women are lodged and maintained in the College, and twelve Boys also are boarded & educated. The men, the women, & the Boys each wear a uniform dress. For the Boys there is a public table kept, but the Men & the Women have each an allowance & live as they please each in the apartment allotted to them.—

Between three & four oClock Lawrence came & inspected the pictures in the Gallery and at ¼ past 4 we dined with the members of the Society now resident,—[viz:] Mr. Smith, Mr. Dowell, a Fellow, Dr. Currie of St. Thomas's Hospital, [& the] Revd. Mr. Johnson, the School Master.—We were very hospitably treated and did not leave the College till past 8. I returned home with Lawrence.

CHAPTER LXXXV

1814

Severe Contest with America

September 2.—Except calling at my Bankers and walking a little before dinner which I had after 6 oClock I was at home all day & the evening.

While walking I met Boaden [Editor of the *Oracle*] who spoke of the probability of this country having a severe contest with America before any agreement can be made with that country.—He spoke of the *Ministry* and remarked that it consisted of men who are united as friends, and though not shining Orators like Mr. Pitt & Mr. Fox, yet they have proved themselves to be amply sufficient for their situation, and that they are men of sound understanding.

Improving London

September 4.—Dr. Hayes called while I was at dinner & sat some time He talked of the improvements which might be made in London in addition to those now carrying into execution. He wished to have a handsome street made to continue the line of *Berners-street* down to Piccadilly.—He spoke of Coad's manufactory of artificial stone, and said He sometime since saw there *Capitals* & *Friezes* for Buildings, which were executed by order of the Prince Regent of Portugal for a Palace which He is erecting at Rio de Janeiro in the Brazils. Such is cheapness of this manufacture that from a calculation it appeared that this wd. be the most oeconomical mode in which these enrichments could be made notwithstanding the great distance to which they were to be carried.—

Interesting as "Robinson Crusoe"

Hayes spoke of a very interesting work published by a Captn OBrien giving an acct. of His escape from a French Prison, and the authenticity of it undoubted. He said it was as interesitng as *Robinson Crusoe*, and that having begun to read it at eleven oClock on one night He did not lay down the Book till 4 oClock.

September 10.—I called on Nollekens and had newspapers from Him. I thought him much altered in His appearance, looking old, with His features much fallen, & His deafness increased but He was chearful in manner & shewed me a Bust of Lord Egremont which He had lately modelled. He sd. His Lordship had invited Him to go to Petworth for change of air.—Mrs. Nollekens I also saw, but in a very feeble state seemingly oppressed by Her bulk and with difficulty moving upstairs.—They spoke of Mrs. Lloyd [Mary Moser, R.A.] having lately seen Her, and described Her to be very well in health & spirits only regretting Her paralysed state (Her right side) as it disabled her from finishing several pictures.

Vandyck a Coxcomb

Dulwich College I went to soon after one oClock. We looked at several Portraits belonging to the College which had been cleaned by Cockburn.—After being very hospitably entertained we left the College about 8 oClock & returned home and accommodated Mr. Romilly, *Brother of Sir Saml. Romilly*, with a seat in our carriage.—

While looking at the Portraits many of which represented persons in the dress worn at the period of Queen Elizabeth, and James 1st. Stothard remarked to me that the great *ruffs* & other singularities of costume at that and other periods would not on acct. of what might be considered their unpicturesqueness be difficulties in the hands of an artist of a sober and fine taste *like Titian*, who by His noble & simple manner of treating His subject made it always respectable and agreeable. He contrasted Him with *Vandyke*, who, He sd. was a *coxcomb* always presenting His figures and particularly the *hands* of His figures in an affected manner.—

Lord Oxford's Debts

September 15.—William Westall I dined with; He was alone. We had much conversation in which He gave me many particulars of His life and His progress in the arts.—He spoke of Lord Oxford and His present situation, having debts to the amount of £317,000 most of them annuities, and that unless He consents to sell a large part of His estate He will be wholly ruined as the income arising from His estates is not sufficient to pay the interest of His debts,—so His Solicitors told Westall. Should He prudently agree to a Sale He wd. have abt. 6 or £7000 pr annum left and a reversion of 4 or £5000 pr annum at the death of His Mother.—Mr. Foley, His relation, is a Trustee for the management of His affairs, and He has at present an allowance of £3000 pr. annum.

Lady Oxford & His children are at present at Naples where they may live at a moderate expence compared with His expenses in England.

September 18.—The weather was remarkably fine today; the Thermometer at 73. It was agreeable to see the multitudes of respectably dressed People, men with their wives and families, who were walking in the vicinity of the Regency Park, or quietly sitting with Pipes and Ale in the open air at the small taverns.—I remarked, as I have done before, that almost all the men were dressed in *Black* or *Dark Blue Cloaths*, and that *Boots* had become an article of Sunday finery even among the lower order of tradesmen & mechanicks.—

Lawrence should be Knighted

September 21.—On Sunday last Lord Stewart set off for Vienna & Lawrence saw him that morning, at which time He sd. He was to be with the Prince Regent before He left London, & suggested that before Lawrence's departure it might be advisable that He shd. be Knighted as the title of "*Chevalier*" was useful abroad, & He said He would mention it to the Prince Regent.—It was proposed by Lord Stewart that Lawrence should arrive in Vienna in January next.—All this was private conversation after Lysons & R. Price left us.—For any extra Portraits He might paint at Vienna Lawrence sd. He should ask 500 guineas. —

Victory over the Americans

September 27.—The Park & Tower guns were fired today in consequence of the arrival of Dispatches from America with an account of a victory over the Americans & the capture of the town of Washington.—

CHAPTER LXXXVI

1814

Chin Simeon

October 7.—J. Wells of Bickley [see Vol. IV.] spoke of the Revd. C. Simeon one of the Fellows of King's College, Cambridge having been at *Eaton School* with him. At that [time] from the form of His face He was nicknamed " Chin Simeon." There was nothing remarkable abt. Him to signify superiority of talents.—

It was the ambition of Mr. Simeon while in His youth to acquire distinction in some way or other. In early life He for a time drank hard, but that habit was followed by temperance. He is now the minister of a church at Cambridge in which He preaches on *Thursday*, but has a Curate who does this duty on Sundays. Having some fortune independent of His Fellowship He has money to spare and gives much in charity, Poor People frequently coming to Him for assistance. He often gives dinners in His apartments at the College & particularly to some Fellows of *Queen's College* who are methodistically inclined. He never attends the *College Chapel*. He is never seen out of temper, and stands the jokes & occasional banterings of His Old College acquaintance witht. being disturbed by it. J. Wells reckoned Him to be about 56 years old.—

Earl Grey & Mr. Whitbread were at Eaton while J. Wells was there. The former was then reckoned clever, and the latter excelled in making Latin verses. I remarked that He had not improved this talent at least in making English verses as I had seen some very indifferent compositions of His making at a late period.—

The Queen Plays at " Commerce "

October 8.—I walked with J. Wells before breakfast in what He called His *Montpellier Walk* in the garden which being sheltered from the North & East winds is warm and agreeable in all the changes of weather. He spoke of His sister in law, widow of His Brother, Admiral Wells, having lately been at Bickley. She came from a visit to Her Brother, Mr. Freemantle, who married the widow of Felton Harvey. They reside abt. 6 miles from Windsor and are in much request with the Queen and

Princesses. Once a week at least the Queen & Her daugrs. make a morning visit to them and are always entertained with Hot boiled Fowls for a luncheon. Fully as often Mr. & Mrs. Freemantle are sent for to go to the Queen's evening party. There, the company being assembled, they see the Queen enter with a little bag hanging on her arm in which she carries Her money.

They then sit down to play at *Commerce* or some other game, and the person who sits next to the Queen contrives so to play into Her hand that she always wins,—but they do not play for much. Nothing is served to the guests on these occasions, perhaps tea, but no cake or Bread and Butter and on the whole this habitual communication with Royalty seemed rather tedious than desireable.—

A Shield for Wellington

October 11.—William Westall sent to desire I wd. call upon Him, which I did, & saw His design for a Shield executed by Him in Chiaro Oscuro, oil colours, for Messrs Green & Co. Goldsmiths &c. on Ludgate Hill [at a cost of £500]. The compartments on the face of the Shield contained representations of the principal military actions in which the Duke of Wellington commanded in the Peninsula & in France.

A number of Merchants in London had subscribed 8000 guineas & it was proposed to present to the Duke a Shield executed in gold from such design as might be approved.—Rundle & Bridge, and other Silver Smiths were competitors for the Commission.—Westall told me His design & the finishing it had occupied him incessantly for 7 weeks & He might reckon His application, when compared with ordinary application, to be nearly equal to double that time.—

French People and the English

Westall I dined with me.—He told me that several persons who lately returned from France remarked how strong the hatred of the French People is towards the People of England, whom they impute all the discomfitude that has fallen upon them. It was reported that the Duke of Wellington recommended to the English to leave France, He being apprehensive of some popular commotion from the unsettled state of the People, of France, in which case their fury wd. be turned upon the English.—

Story of a Rejected Manuscript

Northcote and J. Taylor dined with me.—Northcote appeared to be at liberty respecting diet excepting wine, but of this Mr. Hawkins his Surgeon, restricted Him to one glass of sherry mixed with two glasses & a half of water.—He was in good spirits & appeared to be fully recovered

from His disorder, a *stricture*.—He spoke of an article in the *Edinburgh Review* " Northcote's (His) anecdotes of Sir Jos: Reynolds," and said *Haydon* told Him the article was written by R. Payne Knight. Northcote sd. as He had before told me that He first offered His manuscript to Cadell & Davis. After sometime they offered to publish if He wd. be a *ioint sharer* with them in it. This He declined as He sd. He had heard enough of the unprofitableness of such engagements on the part of authors. —He then being in company with a Partner in the House of Longman & Co. offered [it] to Him & gave Him the manuscript, but they returned it the next day & declined it.

He next offered it to *Evans*, who also refused it.

Friendly Intercession

For sometime it lay upon His hands with little hope of publishing it, but having made it known to Miss Plumptree, the Authoress, she spoke to Colbourn of Conduit street, who expressed Himself willing to enter into an engagement with Northcote for publishing it.—The manuscript being inspected Colbourn recommended *additions*, & set persons to work in collecting various matter respecting Sir Joshua Reynolds &c.—From all that Northcote knew respecting the Sale of it the Bookseller had good reason to be satisfied with His profits. John Murray, the Bookseller, of Albemarle St. told Northcote that He had no doubt of Colbourn making £800 by it.—

Value of Farington's Advice

October 24.—Lawrence wrote to desire I wd. call upon Him to look at His whole length Portrait of the Prince Regent which was in nearly a state of completion. I called & suggested to Him that the Picture was not complete in its effect, there being too much of a *flowery white* in it and a want of point, the bottom of the picture not co-operating with the top. —In consequence He lowered the tone & enriched the colour of the lower part of the light on the *right* of the figure thereby giving full point & effect to the light on the right of the Center of the picture. This had the best effect possible, and in half an Hour the picture was completed.—A gentleman came in while this was going forward to whom Lawrence very handsomely expressed that He had requested my judgment of His Picture and the advantage He had derived from it.—

CHAPTER LXXXVII

1814

Paris and its Inhabitants

October 28.—W. Owen [R.A.] had been five weeks in Paris, a party consisting of Col^{l}, & Mrs. Ainslie,—Callcott, & Mr. Kinnaird, an Architect, Son of Mr. Kinnaird the Magistrate. Owen made many remarks on Paris & its inhabitants ; of the miserable state of the streets,—narrow,—dirty,— & no convenient walks for foot Passengers ; and generally a union of display & filth. The dislike of the *English* appeared manifest for to them the degradation to which France had been subject was attributed ; a disposition in favour of Buonaparte was also apparent, & not to be wondered at, as He had done much for Paris in erecting extensive buildings and many other decorations.

There did not seem to be any dislike of the *Bourbon family*, but there was indifference to them which unfortunately they were not soon likely to overcome as they had not personal attractions, nothing of manner likely to operate on the *People*, and the state of the country is such that they have not the power to do what money might effect, in various ways.—The conceit & self opinion of the French was seen and heard in everything. In dress those who from England or other countries differed from them were the objects of censure.—

Parisian Women like Friesland Hens

The Fashion of the Parisian women was so to frill & lappet & close themselves up abt. the neck & shoulders that they looked like Friezland Hens ; and seeing the English women dressed in a more open manner they affected to decry it as being immodest.—The bold & forward manner of the French women did really on many occasions give just cause to complain of their own indelicacy. At those times when People were admitted to the Royal Palace to see the Royal Family women who came at a late Hour would force their way to the front of the line of Spectators those who had long been stationed there for the advantage of a good situation.—

At the *Institute* when the National Prizes were given by the Duke D'Angouleme well dressed women who came in late wd. stride over the

backs of the Benches & force a leg between any two gentlemen where there appeared to be the least opening.

Owen saw nothing like beauty among the Parisian women, but on the contrary the mass of them might be almost called ugly.—It was in *Normandy*, on His way to *Dieppe* through Rouen that He saw beauty among the women which the strange antiquated Head dresses common among them could not disguise.—Of the expense of living He spoke as being much the same with that in England, but undoubtedly to *Frenchmen* it is much less.—

Pictures at the Louvre

Owen seemed to be less impressed with the appearance of the grand gallery of Pictures at the *Louvre* than people generally are. He sd. that as He proceeded along the works had not the effect of *novelty* upon Him as He was acquainted with them from having seen prints from them. He thought on the whole that excepting a few pictures upon a large scale, we have in England in the aggregate pictures that would fully rival the French Collection. The pictures by Claude there cannot be compared with those in England; and of the St. Peter Martyr by Titian He sd. it has been so much painted upon that excepting the composition of it, a Painter may look with curiosity for that on which its reputation for colour was founded. The works of *Metzu* a Flemish Master, particularly attracted his attention for their excellence.

He was not captivated so much as many others had been with the pictures by Rubens, not thinking [his] the kind of art to be most approved. He was displeased with the discordance in the colouring of the figures in the Transfiguration by Raphael.—He noticed the many instances of the conceit of making the principal light emanate from the *infant Christ* in pictures by Flemish or German artists of an earlier period than Correggio, to show that if there was any merit in this fancy it did not originate with Him.—

Talent Misapplied

He spoke of the modern French artists and their total insensibility to all art that does not correspond with the practise of the present French school with *David* at the head of it. He said that in the Luxembourgh Palace where great works of Rubens are exhibited & pictures by Le Seur, the French artists never proceed farther than two pictures by *David*,—one, " Brutus after the Death of His Sons,"—the other " The Horatii & Curatii " which absorb all their attention. Of *David's* works He sd. it might be called " talent misapplied."

Schools in Art

This conversation led to Mr. West's speaking of the bad consequences of *Schools* in art, which had been destructive of it in every country. Young

men became imitators of those works which were admired without looking beyond them, and from the Carach's at Bologna down to Carlo Maratt, & afterwards Pompeio Battoni, succeeding generations saw some artist more successful than others of His period though founded on the same error, occupying the attention of the youth of His day to the exclusion of every other practise. When I went to Rome, sd. Mr. West, the Italian artists of that day thought of nothing, looked at nothing, but the works of Pompeio Battoni; and at Paris the French artists were equally expressed by the productions of *Vanloo* & *Boucher*.—

Plunder by Joseph Buonaparte

The picture of "Christ in the Garden" brought from Spain by the Duke of Wellington, a work of Correggio, was spoken of, & Mr. West allowed it to be an *original* picture, but in a state so much more imperfect than that of the same subject belonging to Mr. Angerstein, which was formerly in the Palace of the King of Sardinia, that He (Mr. West) wd.* rather have the *latter* picture than a "Cart load of the former." He sd. that brought by the Duke was in the Collection of the King of Spain, and was taken from thence with other plunder by Joseph Buonaparte, from whom the Duke took it at the *Battle of Vittoria*. The Spanish picture was probably the *first painted*, but is thick in the execution, on the contrary the latter picture has all the facility & grace which resulted from the Painter having nothing to compose, but only to execute.—

Boswell spoke of His Father's *Life of Dr. Johnson*,—and the terms on which He sold the remainder of the *Copyright*. He sd. that [it] is a rule among Booksellers that those who have purchased Copyrights of Books shall retain the privilege after the legal term of years for which the right is secured has expired.—

* See Ante, Chapter LXXV, March 16.

CHAPTER LXXXVIII

1814

Art and Artists

November 5.—Constable called, having returned from His Father's in Essex last night. He told me He had there been long occupied in painting Landscapes from nature.—

November 7.—I called on Constable & saw the studies He had painted; also on Philip Reinagle [R.A.] who showed me His process in painting viz: on a ground painted with raw & burnt Umber, His subject sketched out, and with White, Black & Umber He expressed the different degrees of the light parts of every object leaving the *Umber* ground to serve for the parts in shade.—When this preparation was completed He painted His sky and the other parts with their proper colours.—He spoke to me in favour of His Son T. Ramsay Reingale & had before called on me for the same purpose when I was not at home, hoping that He wd. this evening be elected an Associate of the Royal Academy. I told Him I would vote for Him alone till He shd be elected. R. Reinagle was at Holkham in Norfolk (Mr. Coke's) which He sd. prevented Him from soliciting votes.—[Reingale & William Collins were elected.]

A Celebrated Journalist

November 8.—I was at home during the morning, but dined at Westall's.—Taylor spoke of Mr. James Perry, Editor of the *Morning Chronicle*. He had known Him near 30 years.—Perry was born in Scotland, & in early life was a School-master. He came to London & wrote for newspapers, and to support one He recd. £200 pr. annum from persons who were Proprietors of it.—This annuity He gave up on their purchasing for Him at the expence of £600 the Editorship of the *Morning Chronicle* & which He has continued to possess.—He had at different periods two persons joined with Him in this Concern, a Mr. James Gray, a very able man; He died; also a Mr. Spankey, a man of some parts.—

Mrs. Siddons and "Apollo"

John Taylor had lately dined with Mrs. Siddons with whom He has been long acquainted. She spoke of Her late excursion to *Paris*, and said,

one object to induce Her to go there was to see the Statue of *Apollo* which was brought from Rome.—She was disappointed in this statue, it did not answer Her expectation. With a statue of *Diana* returned from the Chase she was captivated.—

November 9.—Lawrence I dined with.—Lawrence's whole length Portrait of the Prince Regent was seen by Northcote who sd. it was the *most like* & the best Portrait that had been painted of Him.—

November 10.—Constable called to inform me that His Uncle Mr. D. P. Watts had seen His painted studies,—noticed their being *more finished* than His other works,—and bespoke one of them.—

The Artist and the Jeweller

November 15.—Westall called to inform me that one of the Mr. Greens Silversmiths on Ludgate Hill had been with Him this morning and decidedly objected to His demand of 500 guineas for His design and painting a Shield to commemorate the Duke of Wellington's victories,—to be executed in Silver & presented to His Grace by a number of Merchants in the City who had subscribed 7000 guineas for this purpose.—

Mr. Green told him that the Sum He (Westall) asked had surprised them as much as if the Chancellor of the Exchequer had called upon them to pay the national debt, & that they shd. resist the demand in every way in their power.—He said Messrs Smirke & Stothard had both made designs for them and that the former charged only 180 guineas & the latter whose design was preferred to all the rest, charged only 150 guineas. Westall replied that He had been occupied full two months on this subject & that with such extraordinary application that He must justly call it the work of three months; that He had charged it below what He could have got if otherwise employed; that He reckoned His time at *ten guineas* a day in His ordinary practise, which wd. have made a much larger sum if He had not in this instance departed from His rule.

Mr. Green asked Him whether He had any objection to refer it to arbitration? Westall replied that He had not before been called upon for any such reference, but He wd. agree to it provided it should take place soon as the person He should appoint wd. probably leave London in a short time. Green [said] His Brother was in Norfolk, but on His return it should be proceeded upon.—Westall having made this statement to me requested me to be His Arbitrator, which I agreed to.—

CHAPTER LXXXIX

1814

The Regent's Great Plan

December 1.—Callcott called. He told me Sir Thos. Barnard had informed Him that in the great Plan proposed for building a Palace for the Prince Regent it was intended to include a grand gallery for statues sufficiently large to contain 300 Casts from the Antique; and that it should be appropriated for students in art, & that the superintendence of it shd. be in the [hands of] the Governors of the British Institution.—He was ignorant till Callcott informed Him that the study of the antique was one great part of the business of the Royal Academy students being admitted there for that purpose.—He also sd. that it was intended to attach a Royal Academy to this grand Plan.—Callcott apprehended that all this tended to add to the power & influence of the Governors of the British Institution, who might eventually look to establish an authority over the Body of Artists.—

Difficulties about a Chapel

December 6.—Constable called & spoke of the unpleasant situation in which Sir Thos. Bernard is placed respecting a Chapel erected at Brighton. Such an addition to the convenience afforded by the Parish Church was much wanted, & Sir Thomas subscribed £500 & obtained other subscriptions to the amount of £3000, with which a Chapel was built, with the approbation of the Bishop of Chichester, but difficulties have arisen abt. appointing a Minister for the Chapel, one a Mr. Marsh from Reading having been objected to as being Methodistical. He was recommended to Sir Thomas by the Bishop, who however, has since been induced to object to Him. The Chapel has not been consecrated, but was once used by Mr. Marsh. He being assured by Sir Thomas that He wd. protect Him from injury, which however could not be done but by some submission to the Bishop.

Sir Thomas has now instituted an action against the Bishop for not having fulfilled His promise to consecrate the Chapel & thereby preventing the subscribers from receiving any remuneration for the money advanced

which was expected to arise from letting the Seats.—Sir Thomas, when at Brighton is now shunned by the Clergy who when they meet Him do not notice Him.—

Lord Grey at Howick

Henry Thomson [R.A.] spoke to me much abt. Lord Grey with whom He was at Howick in Northumberland some months in the autumn of 1812. His acct. of the temper & manners of His Lordship in His domestic capacity was highly creditable to Him. He sd. that at Howick the breakfast Hour was nine oClock & that from so till one Lord Grey passed in His study. He then rode or walked with His daughters for an Hour or two, and afterwards went out with Thomson to shoot. At dinner He ate plain food & drank not more than two or three glasses of wine.—

His constitution is not strong, and He has frequent returns of a stomach complaint, spasms attended with sickness which for two or three days debilitates Him very much. When so attacked He has recourse to Opium, which causing costiveness obliges Him to have recourse to purgative medicines. He himself, thinks that He shall die in one of these attacks, and ascribes them to having gone to the House of Commons many years ago to be present at an important debate at a time when He had been salivated for a liver complaint.—

Sheridan the Devil on Earth

Thomson thinks Lord Grey by disposition rather an indolent man.—In speaking of the House of Lords He said there is nothing now to animate —nothing to force the mind to full action. The speeches of Lord Liverpool & others are so tame that they raise no spirit in an opponent; it is not sd. He what was felt when Pitt & Fox were exhibiting their talents. He spoke of Sheridan as one who wd. lead others into a scrape and leave them in it as soon as He saw danger. He laughingly sd. that for ability & treachery He might be called the Devil upon earth.—

Lady Holland Dresses for Dinner

Thomson spoke of a visit made by Lord & Lady Holland to Howick. When they travel Her Ladyship carries Her *Man Cook* with Her, who wherever she is dresses Her dinner. I, sd. Lord Grey, who lives in a plain way never had such a choice of eating before at Howick, it was a luxurious time.—She also has her bedding carried and some other articles which wd. not be expected to accompany a traveller.—

We talked of the ensuing election of two Academicians. Thomson was decidedly for [Sir] *Henry Raeburn* & *Edward Bird* in which I concurred with Him. [Both were elected.]

Penurious Habits

December 8.—S. Lysons called. He had been much troubled with Rheumatism and found relief from using what is called *Gum* Plaister.—He told me of the death of Old Mr. Gale formerly of Whitehaven and of His extreme penurious habits. He said that at the age of abt. 81 He was believed to have lost His life by over exertion in riding 50 miles in one day wishing to avoid paying double turnpikes by remaining till the next day.—He began life with abt. £35,000 which by *saving* He increased to £350,000.—

This Lord and That

December 11.—Captain Dorin spoke of the late Lord Minto, who He said realised £245,000 while He held the office of Governor General of Bengal.—He sd. Lord M's views were to make a fortune for himself & that was his chief object. He died soon after coming to England of a Stranguary, a complaint to which He had been long subject. He died on His way to Scotland where Lady Minto was expecting him.—

Captn. Dorin spoke of Lord Moira as being very much liked at Calcutta. He has reduced the pompous manner of living in which He set out, & by so doing has complied with the wishes of his friends there. But sd. Captn. D., "He will never save anything in any situation, such is His want of consideration for himself."—

Farington's Servant Mary

December 18.—I went to Fitzroy Chapel in the morning and in the afternoon.—This day I spoke to Mary abt. Her receiving the Sacrament on Christmas Day, which she told me she was much disposed to do. She said that before she was confirmed and afterwards she was instructed in the duty of the Sacrament by a Lady a relation of the Revd. Mr. Welling of Ludlow. She said she now lived in a state to receive the Sacrament with hope & comfort, which while living in Her last place for more than four years she could not do, as the mode of living in that service did not allow of proper time for religious duties to be properly observed, & that since she came to my House she & Sarah had not lived happily together, & while in a state of personal quarrel she did not think she could attend the Sacrament without impropriety. She sd. she had been most unhappy while this habit of quarrelling continued, but that for their comfort they had for a long time lived as friends in a state of harmony. I said all that appeared to me proper strongly exhorting Her to reflect upon the evil consequences of living in such a state with any one. She expressed Herself fully satisfied of the truth of what I sd. adding no remarks or complaints, but that in Her former place she lived in harmony with every one which

indeed, I recollected was given to me as part of Her character Her late mistress having reported Her to be of an excellent temper.—

People of America not Esteemable

Lestock Wilson's I dined at.—Captn. Beaufort* spoke of the War with *America*, and opposed the continuance of it. He held that America had been illtreated by England from the period of Lord North's administration to this time. England, He sd, not having been able to subject America bore a peevish resentment against that country.—He admitted or rather declared that the People of America were not estimable,—that though a new People as a Power they had not the virtues of such but all the vices of an old government. They wd. however, in time become a great People, and with South America form together nations that would in comparison make Europe & the Eastern world little. He added that governing Power had long been travelling westward.—

* See Chapter X.

END OF VOL. VII.

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